乙女戦争

ディーヴチー・ヴァールカ

Dívčí válka

by Kouichi Ohnishi

ACTION COMICS

大西巷一

1

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3

ACTION COMICS

マイセン辺領
ラウシッツ辺境伯領
ンレンア公領
プラハ
ブルゼニ
クトナー・ホラ
ターボル
モラヴィア
辺境伯領
バイエルン
公領
各方面から
十字軍が進攻
オーストリア
公領
ボヘミア王国
1420年頃の
ヨーロッパと
ボヘミア王国
ドイツ騎士団領
イングランド王国
神聖ローマ帝国
ポーランド・
リトアニア
連合王国
ボヘミア
王国
フランス王国
ハンガリー王国
オスマン帝国
教皇領

story

前巻までの物語

1415年、プラハの神学者ヤン・フスは教会の腐敗を批判し、異端者として処刑された。これにより、聖書に基づいた信者の平等を説く「フス派」と、教会の権威を重んじる「カトリック派」の対立が激化。そして1419年、後に言う「フス戦争」が勃発する。

1420年7月13日、プラハ近郊、ヴィトコフの丘で歴史的な一戦の幕が上がる。騎士を中心とするカトリック派十字軍の数10万に対し、フス派ターボル軍は農民兵との混成部隊でその数わずか2千。フス派にとって勝ち目のないはずの戦いは、ヤン・ジシュカの秘策《ワゴンブルク》により、ターボル軍の奇跡的な勝利で幕を閉じる。

戦火の下、少女兵シャールカは友人ターニャを失い、自らも十字軍に囚われ、陵辱と処刑の危機に瀕する。しかし、黒騎士ヴィルヘルム、皇后パルパラ、皇帝ジギスムントとその小姓ヨハン・フニャディらの温情により生き延び、再びターボル軍に合流する。

一方、カトリック教会は、異端であるフス派を抹殺する為、敗北した十字軍に代わり、次なる一手を打つ――――――。

Character
登場人物紹介

ガブリエラ

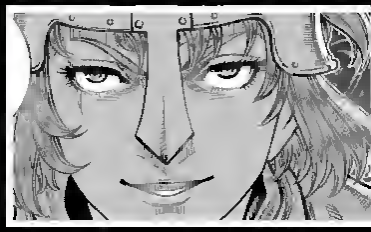
元修道女で聖書の教えにも造詣が深い才女。亡き《山》の指導者ミクラーシュを敬愛している。

ラウラ

カトリック派に捕らわれ陵辱を受けた怨みからターボル軍の兵士となった。

サーラ

従軍娼婦の子で、シャールカらと同じ「ターボル天使隊」の一員。天使隊最年少の10歳。



ヴラスタ

ヤン・ジシュカの部下。
男勝りの剣技を誇る女傑。

Husité | フス派

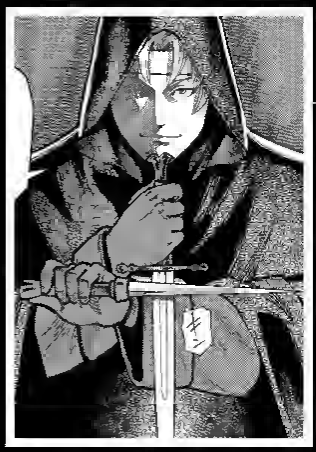
シャールカ

ボヘミアの農民の娘。カトリック派の騎士の襲撃で陵辱され、家族を失う。ヤン・ジシュカと出会い、フス派の兵士になる。

ヤン・ジシュカ

歴戦の傭兵隊長。フス派の急進派。信仰心篤い農民や女性、子供までも隊へと編成し《ターボル軍》を結成する。

Katolici | カトリック派



ヤン・イスクラ

ブランダ・ダ・カスティリオーネ枢機卿に雇われた殺し屋。

ヨハン・フニャディ

ワラキアの貴族の子で、皇帝ジギスムントの小姓。カトリック派に捕らえられたシャールカを助けた。

Dívčí válka
by Kouichi Ohnishi

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第12話 血の十字架 043
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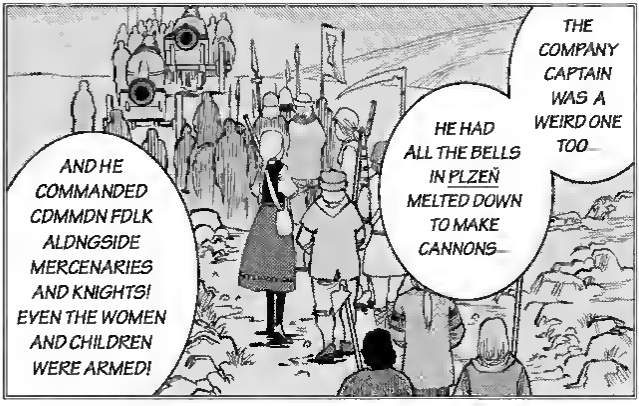
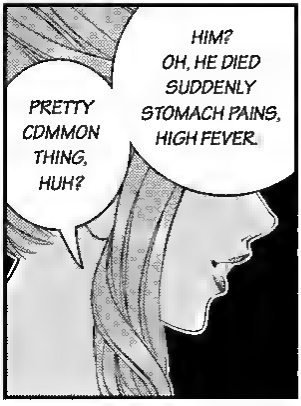
第15話 黒き死の天使 149

GIRL FALLS FOR A MERCENARY, SO GIRL ENDS UP JDINING A FIGHTING COMPANY!

THAT'S HOW THESE THINGS GO, I GUESS. IN THIS TYPE OF STORY.

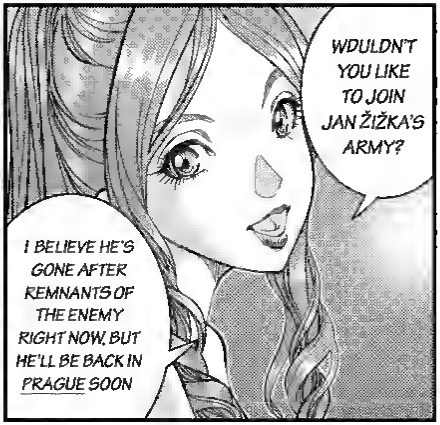
WE WENT TO PLZEŇ, AND THEN TO SOME PLACE CALLED TÁBOR IN THE SDUTH. AFTER ABOUT A YEAR, WE CAME BACK UP HERE.
WE TAGGED ALONG IN A WAGON, WE COOKED THE FOOD, WE DID THE LAUNDRY, AND SOMETIMES WE WORKED THE NIGHTS.


AND HE COMMANDED CDMMDN FDLK ALDNGSIDE MERCENARIES AND KNIGHTS! EVEN THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE ARMED!
HE HAD ALL THE BELLS IN PLZEŇ MELTED DOWN TO MAKE CANNONS.
THE COMPANY CAPTAIN WAS A WEIRD ONE TOO.


PRETTY CDMMON THING, HUH?
HIM? OH, HE DIED SUDDENLY STOMACH PAINS, HIGH FEVER.

BUT IN SPITE OF ALL THIS, THEY MANAGED TO BEAT THAT HUGE CRUSADER ARMY... CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?

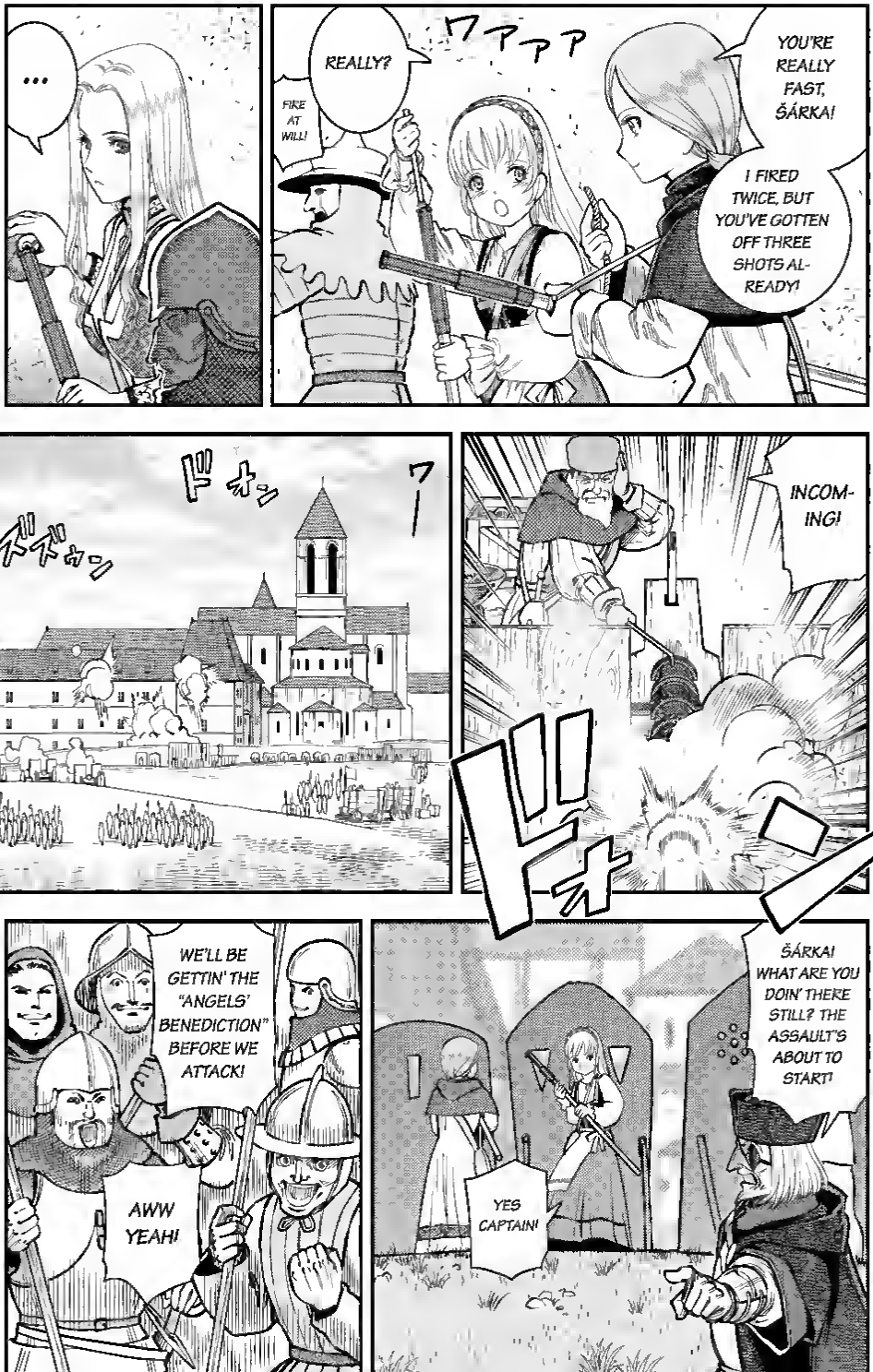
ME? YEAH, HE HANDED ME THAT FLUTE THINGY, AND SAID SOMETHING ABOUT "WORKING GIRLS" TAKING UP ARMS
BUT WOMEN FIGHTIN' IN A WAR, I DUNNO...
PLUS, I HEARD THAT BLACK POWDERY STUFF MAKES YOU SICK...


WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO JOIN JAN ŽIŽKA'S ARMY?
I BELIEVE HE'S GONE AFTER REMNANTS OF THE ENEMY RIGHT NOW, BUT HE'LL BE BACK IN PRAGUE SOON

OH, AND I ALMOST FORGOT...
WE PICKED UP THIS GIRL ALONG THE WAY...
I THOUGHT SHE WAS GONNA JOIN US AND DO WHAT WE DID

DOH, BE GENTLE NOW. IF YOU WANNA GO AGAIN, THAT'LL BE EXTRA!

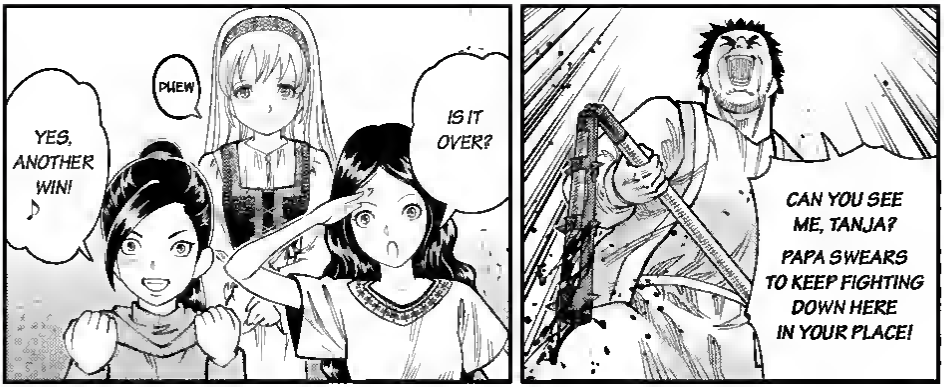
BUT INSTEAD, SHE BECAME A SOLDIER!

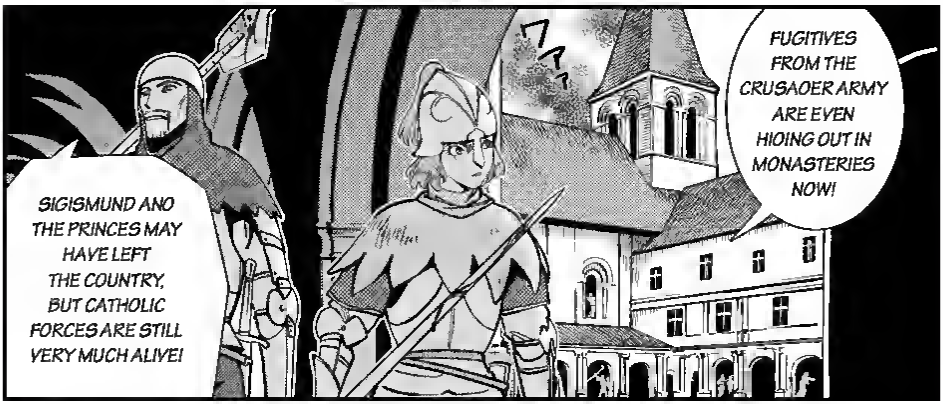

...
REALLY?
FIRE AT WILL!
ワアアア
YOU'RE REALLY FAST, ŠÁRKA!
I FIRED TWICE, BUT YOU'VE GOTTEN OFF THREE SHOTS ALREADY!
ドォン
ワー
ズズゥン
INCOMING!
ドォーン
WE'LL BE GETTIN' THE "ANGELS' BENEDICTION" BEFORE WE ATTACK!
AWW YEAH!
ŠÁRKA! WHAT ARE YOU DOIN' THERE STILL? THE ASSAULT'S ABOUT TO START!
YES CAPTAIN!

MAY GOD BLESS YOU..
AND BRING YOU VICTORY!
C'MON, MEN! IF THE ANGELS ARE ON OUR SIDE, NOTHING CAN STOP US!
BE CAREFUL OUT THERE!
GOD KEEP YOU SAFE!
COUNT ON US, GIRLS!

NOW LET'S GO PUT DOWN ROME'S MANGY DOGS!

YOUR LIFE YOU WILL GIVE
AND FOR YOUR FELLOW BRO-THERS
THE LORD COMMANDETH FEAR NOT THOSE WHO DO YOU HARM


YES, ANOTHER WIN! ♪
PHEW
IS IT OVER?
CAN YOU SEE ME, TANJA?
PAPA SWEARS TO KEEP FIGHTING DOWN HERE IN YOUR PLACE!


SIGISMUND AND THE PRINCES MAY HAVE LEFT THE COUNTRY, BUT CATHOLIC FORCES ARE STILL VERY MUCH ALIVE!
FUGITIVES FROM THE CRUSADER ARMY ARE EVEN HIDING OUT IN MONASTERIES NOW!

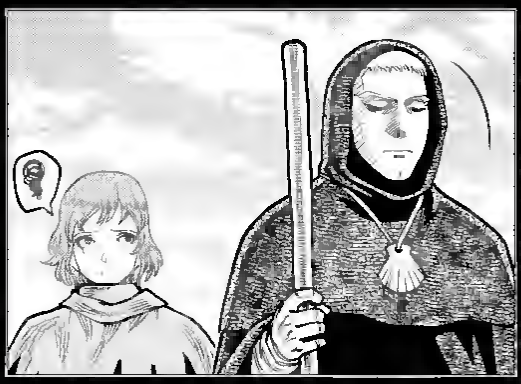
WE MUST CONTINUE IN THESE EFFORTS IF WE ARE TO FLUSH OUT THE ENEMY!
ONCE AGAIN YOU HAVE FOUGHT WELL, MEN!

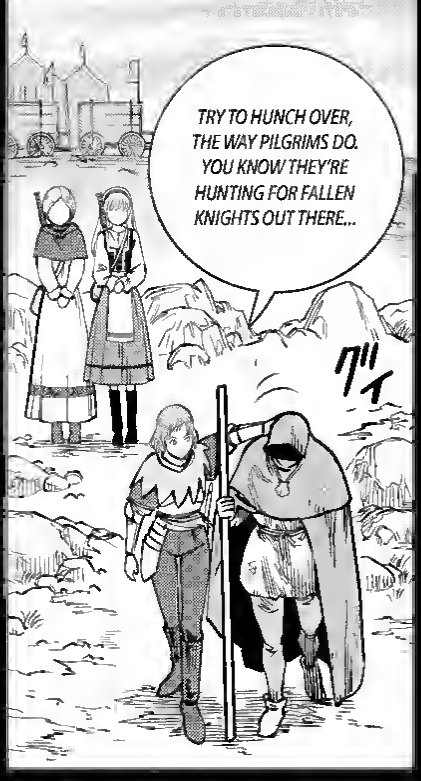
YOU'VE FREED US FROM THE BRUTALITY OF THE CRUSADERS AND THE HEAVY TITHES OF THE MONKS!
WELCOME, CAPTAIN ŽIŽKA, WELCOME!
OUR VILLAGE IS WITH THE TABORITES!
'TIS A REQUEST READILY GRANTED!
FATHER, COULD WE ENTREAT TO LISTEN TO THE "ANGELS' CHOIR"?
IT WOULD BE OF GREAT COMFORT TO MANY IN NEED!
NOT A PRO-BLEM!
YOU GOT OUR MESS-AGE?
MY TROOPS MUST REST UP
YEP! ♪
LOOKS LIKE WE'LL GET TO BREATHE EASY TONIGHT!

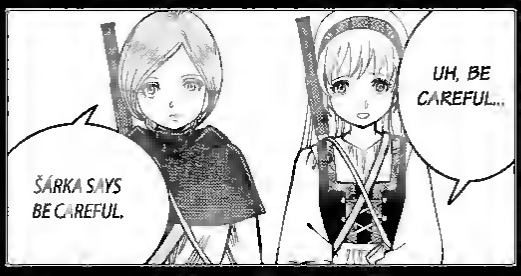
HE WAS HIDING IN THE FOREST!
CAPTAIN ŽIŽKA, WE GOT THIS 'ERE SOLDIER FROM THEM CRUSADERS!
FOR PITY'S SAKE, DON'T KILL ME!
COME ON, YOU!
YOU MEAN TO KILL THIS MAN?
AND MY BOYS FOUGHT BACK AND WERE TORTURED TO DEATH!
THEY PLUNDERED ALL OUR PROVISIONS AND ALL OUR CATTLE!
ME OWN DAUGHTER'S GONE MAD AFTER SUFFERING ONE TOO MANY TIMES
THESE SCUM DUN RAVAGED ALL THE LADIES IN THE VILLAGE, FROM CHILD TO CRONE
AAAAH
SO HE CAN SUFFER... FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE!
NO! WE WANT YOU TO SHOW US HOW NOT TO KILL HIM!
HMM...

BRRR
IF ALL GOES WELL, YOU CAN PROLONG THIS FOR OVER A MONTH!
GIVE HIM WATER IF HE NEEDS IT, BUT ONLY FEED HIM THE ABSOLUTE MINIMUM
BRR
MAKE SURE TO DO IT RIGHT!
YOU SURE KNOW YOUR STUFF! THANKS!
GUH
GH
THERE, STRIKE HIM IN THE LEGS, BUT AVOID THE HEAD AND BELLY!
DON'T USE A BLADE, 'COS HE'LL JUST BLEED OUT! IF HIS SKIN BREAKS, STAUNCH IT!
...!
UHH, CAPTAIN
NOPE!
I WILL NOT TOLERATE YOUR INTERFERING WITH THESE PEOPLE AND THEIR DESIRE FOR REVENGE!

COULO WE JOIN THE CHOIR TOO?
WE THINK YOUR SONGS ARE SO UPLIFTING!
YOU SHOULO TALK TO FATHER PROKOP. BUT JUST TO WARN YOU, THERE'LL BE AN AUOITION!
SORRY IF IT'S A LITTLE CRAMPED.
ARE THERE ENOUGH SHEETS?
OH NO, IT'S PERFECT, THANK YOU!
AAH, I LOVE FRESH STRAW!
I HOPE THAT BLACK KNIGHT DOESN'T GET CAPTUREO.
ARE YOU OKAY, ŠÁRKA?
IF YOU HEAD EAST, YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO REJOIN THE EMPEROR'S ARMY.
DON'T GO NORTH, IT'S TOO DANGEROUS...

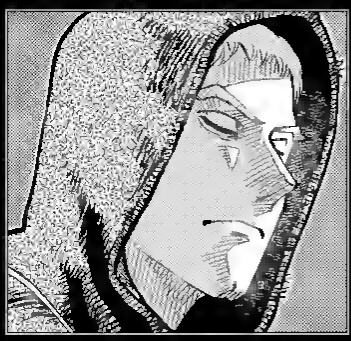



TRY TO HUNCH OVER, THE WAY PILGRIMS DO. YOU KNOW THEY'RE HUNTING FOR FALLEN KNIGHTS OUT THERE...
グイ


UH, BE CAREFUL...
ŠÁRKA SAYS BE CAREFUL.

YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO LIKE THIS MAN, BY ANY CHANCE, ŠÁRKA?

SHOULD NEVER HAVE HELPED HIM... INGRATE!

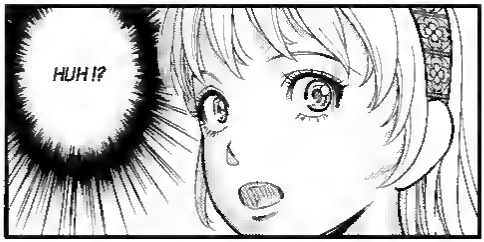


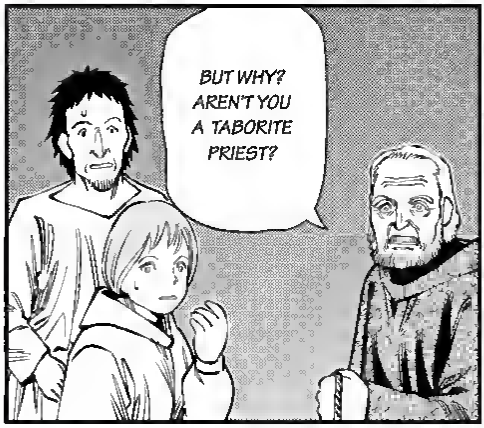
OH, SURE! DON'T THANK THE PERSON WHO SAVED YOUR LIFE!

Y-YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT!? IT'S BECAUSE OF HIM THAT TANJA'S DEAD!
I'M GRATEFUL TO HIM, I SUPPOSE...
UHH..? I-I DON'T KNOW.
AND HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ABOUT KAREL ALREADY!?
DUMMY!
!
DO YOU WANT HER TO SPEND HER LIFE MOURNING ALL THAT SHE'S LOST?
NO, THAT'S NOT MY INTENTION AT ALL...

!
HH
HHH
QUICK! SAVE YOURSELF!
AAA AH!

WE FOUND HIM! HE DROWNED HIMSELF IN THE RIVER!
WHAT? THE PRISONER ESCAPED?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
SOMEONE CUT HIM LOOSE!
THIS IS AN OUTRAGE! HE'S NOT SUFFERED ENOUGH!
HE KNEW HE COULDN'T RUN AWAY IN HIS STATE, SO HE KILLED HIMSELF!
IT WAS ME!
I... I'M THE ONE WHO..
I MUST CONFESS..
WHO'S THE TRAITOR?
APPARENTLY SOMEONE HELPED THE PRISONER TO ESCAPE!
ドキ
ドキ

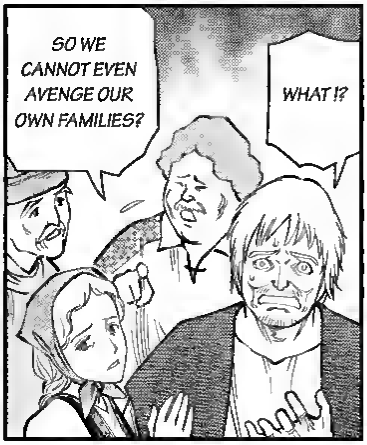

HUH!?

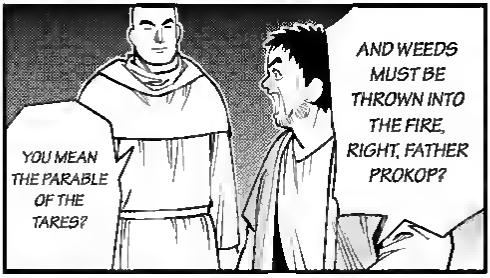

BUT WHY? AREN'T YOU A TABORITE PRIEST?

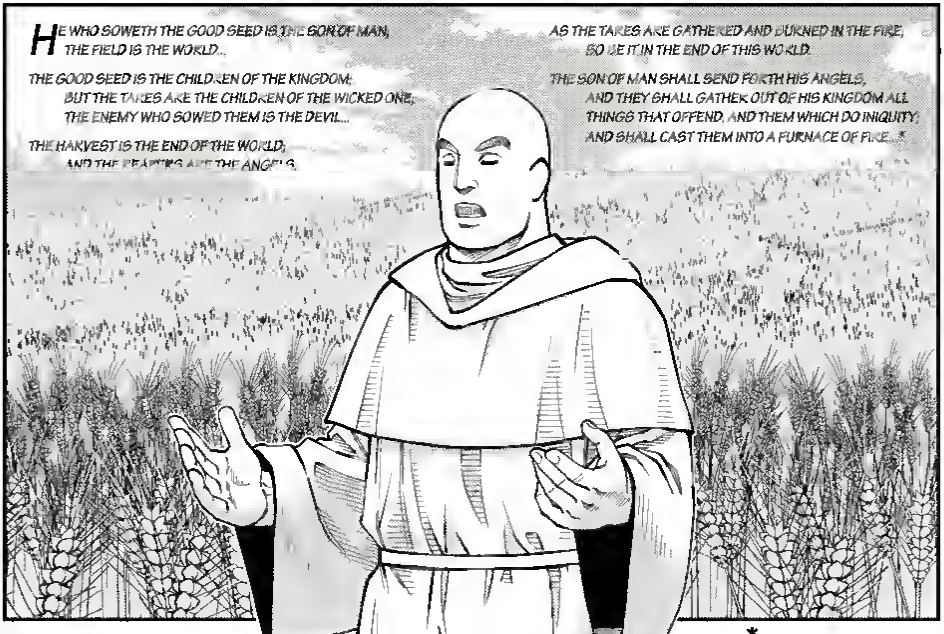
I WAS THE ONE WHO LET THE POOR DEVIL GO!

DID THE BIBLE NOT TEACH US TO REJECT THE WICKEDNESS OF WAR, AND TO LOVE THINE ENEMIES?
WHAT YOU ARE DOING IS IMMORAL!

IS THIS TRUE, BROTHER CHELČICKY?



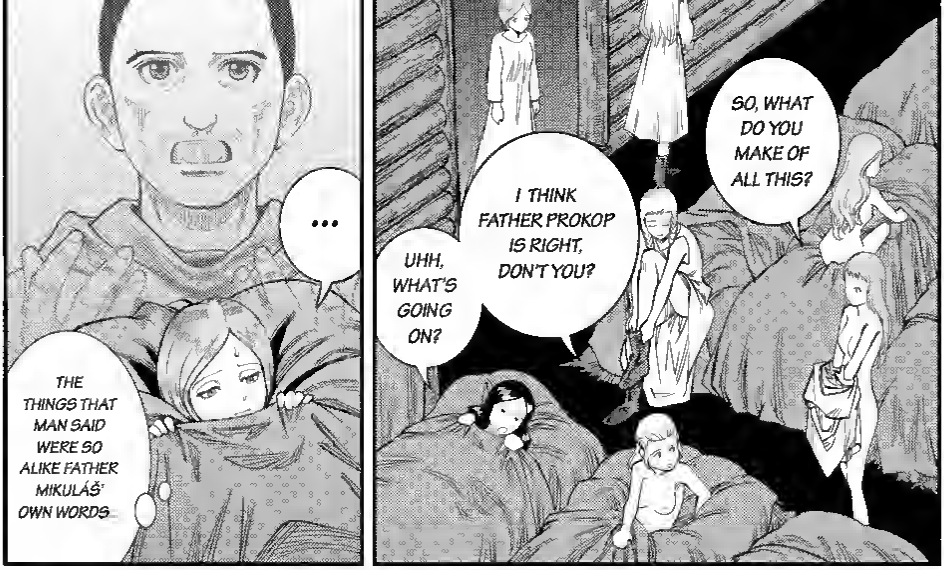


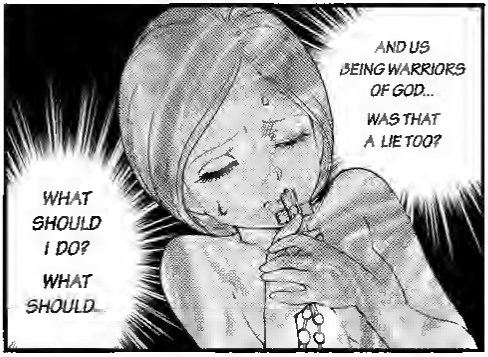

HE WHO SOWETH THE GOOD SEED IS THE SON OF MAN, THE FIELD IS THE WORLD...
THE GOOD SEED IS THE CHILDREN OF THE KINGDOM; BUT THE TARES ARE THE CHILDREN OF THE WICKED ONE, THE ENEMY WHO SOWED THEM IS THE DEVIL...
THE HARVEST IS THE END OF THE WORLD, AND THE REAPERS ARE THE ANGELS.
AS THE TARES ARE GATHERED AND BURNED IN THE FIRE, SO BE IT IN THE END OF THIS WORLD.
THE SON OF MAN SHALL SEND FORTH HIS ANGELS, AND THEY SHALL GATHER OUT OF HIS KINGDOM ALL THINGS THAT OFFEND, AND THEM WHICH DO INIQUITY; AND SHALL CAST THEM INTO A FURNACE OF FIRE... *

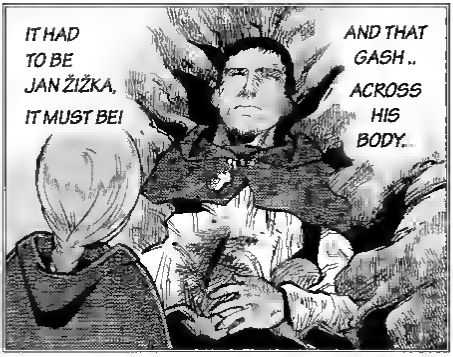
* GOSPEL OF MATTHEW 13

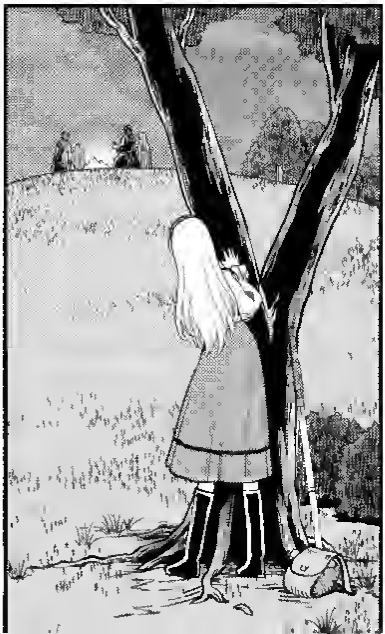
AND IT IS OUR PART, AS WARRIORS OF GOD, TO SEPARATE THE WHEAT FROM THE TARES!
THE TIME OF THE HARVEST HAS COME!
WE'VE ARGUED THIS MANY TIMES ALREADY!
LEST WE ROOT THE WHEAT UP WITH THEM?
BUT DID CHRIST ALSO NOT SAY NOT TO GATHER THE TARES,,
IN TÁBOR, CLEARLY IT IS I WHO'S THE HERETIC!
I KNOW.
IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ACCEPT THIS CONCLUSION ,
WE TOO RENOUNCE THIS VIOLENCE!
BROTHER CHELČICKÝ, LET US COME WITH YOU!
IN SEARCH OF THE TRUE FAITH!
I TAKE MY LEAVE...

WE SHALL WAIT ON YONDER HILL UNTIL DAWN BREAKS!
THOSE WHO WISH FOR PEACE MAY JOIN US. .
ALAS! THAT IDEALS ALONE ARE NOT ENOUGH TO DEFEND OUR CONVICTIONS!
EH?
IF IT WAS UP TO ME ALONE, I STILL WOULDN'T JOIN!
DESERTING TO ALL THIS FANFARE!
ALL THIS AIN'T GOOD FOR MORALE!
IT'S YOUR JOB TO MAINTAIN THE FLOCK, Y'KNOW
YOU'RE PRETTY SMART... FOR A PRIEST!
AND SO, I MAKE USE OF YOUR STRENGTH THE SAME WAY YOU DO OUR FAITH, CAPTAIN ŽIŽKA!

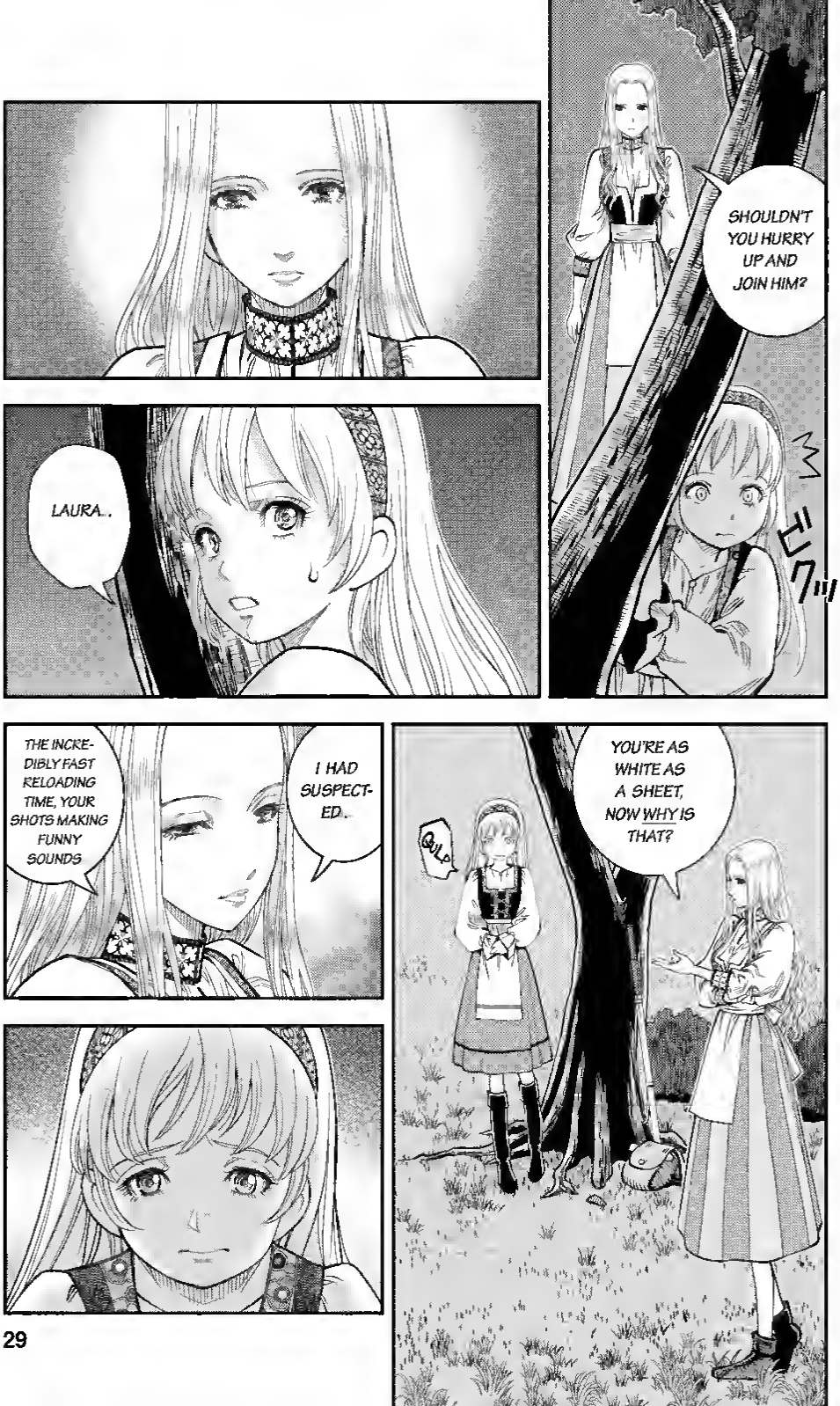

THE THINGS THAT MAN SAID WERE SO ALIKE FATHER MIKULÁŠ' OWN WORDS...
...
UHH, WHAT'S GOING ON?
I THINK FATHER PROKOP IS RIGHT, DON'T YOU?
SO, WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF ALL THIS?


WHAT SHOULD I DO?
WHAT SHOULD...
AND US BEING WARRIORS OF GOD...
WAS THAT A LIE TOO?


IT HAD TO BE JAN ŽIŽKA, IT MUST BE!
AND THAT GASH.. ACROSS HIS BODY...

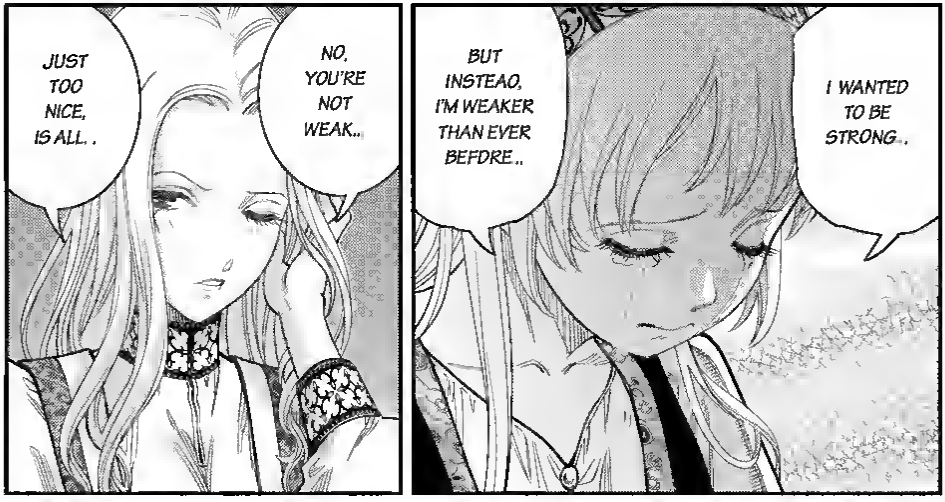


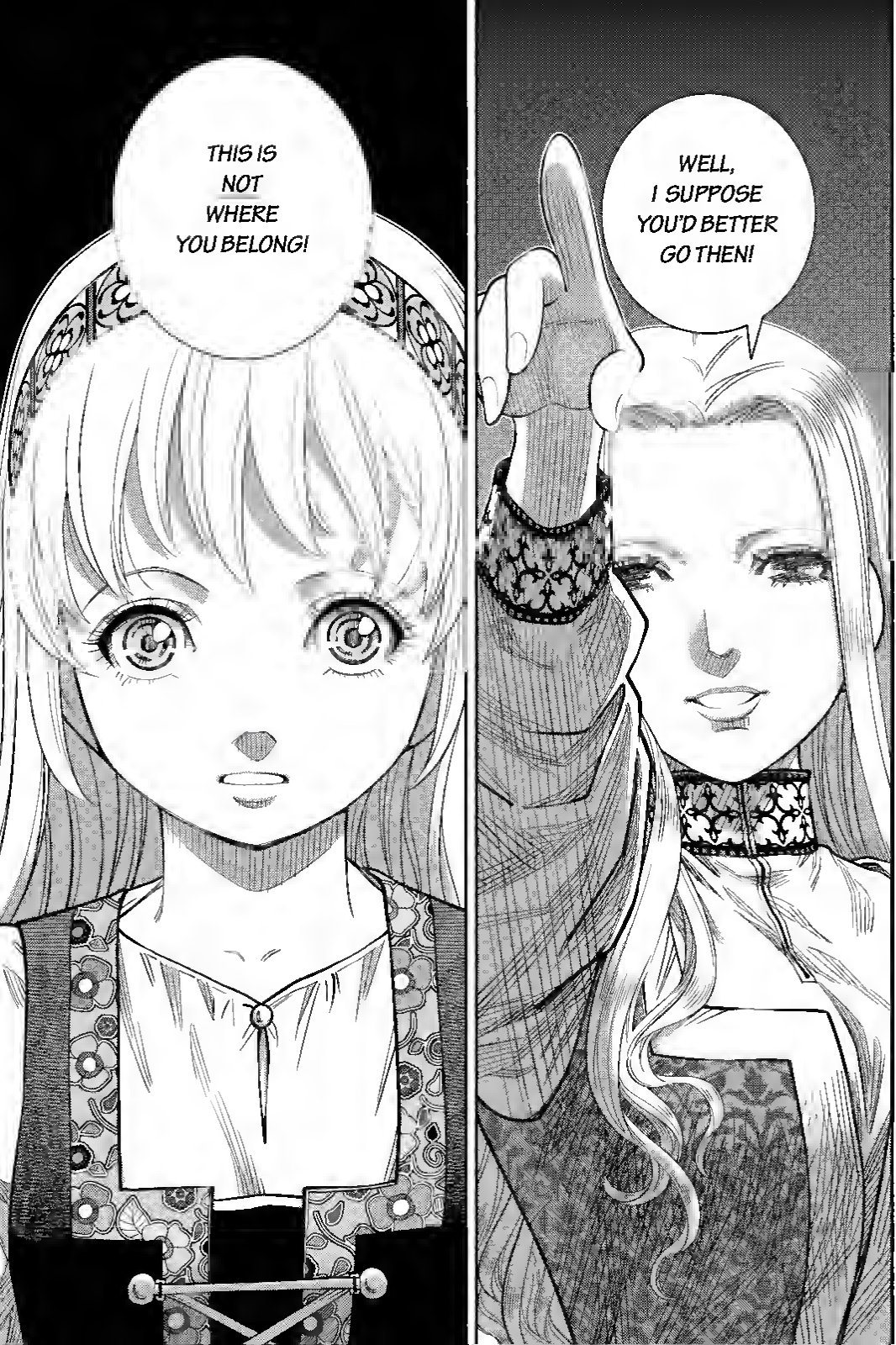
ŠÁRKA'S GONE!


SHOULDN'T YOU HURRY UP AND JOIN HIM?
ビクッ!!
LAURA...
THE INCREDIBLY FAST RELOADING TIME, YOUR SHOTS MAKING FUNNY SOUNDS
I HAD SUSPECTED.
YOU'RE AS WHITE AS A SHEET, NOW WHY IS THAT?
GULP

BUT THEN, I WAS RESCUED BY THAT BLACK KNIGHT
AND BY PEOPLE WHO WERE SUPPOSED TO BE MY ENEMIES.
WHEN I SAW TANJA DIE, I WAS SO SCARED..

PRETENDING TO FIRE.. I'M SORRY..
IT WAS BAD OF ME, NOT BEING ABLE TO FIRE ..


JUST TOO NICE, IS ALL..
NO, YOU'RE NOT WEAK..
BUT INSTEAD, I'M WEAKER THAN EVER BEFORE ..
I WANTED TO BE STRONG..


THIS IS NOT WHERE YOU BELONG!
WELL, I SUPPOSE YOU'D BETTER GO THEN!

BUT...
WHERE
DO I
BELONG?

Ahhh...
WHERE'S THE CAPTAIN?
DAT YOU, VIKTORÍN?
WHAT'S NEW IN PRAGUE?
BAH, WE HAVE THIRTY NEW RECRUITS FROM THIS VILLAGE ALONE!
SO, ALL IN ALL, TEN PEOPLE LEFT LAST NIGHT?
EVERY-THING'S GOING OUR WAY.
I'M STARVING!
SMELLS GOOD!
WE'VE BEEN ORDERED TO RETURN!
I'M GONNA WASH UP!
MAYBE... IN ANY CASE, PREPARE TO BREAK CAMP!
ARE WE GETTING A RAISE?
ORDERED, HUH... BY OUR PATRON-ESS?

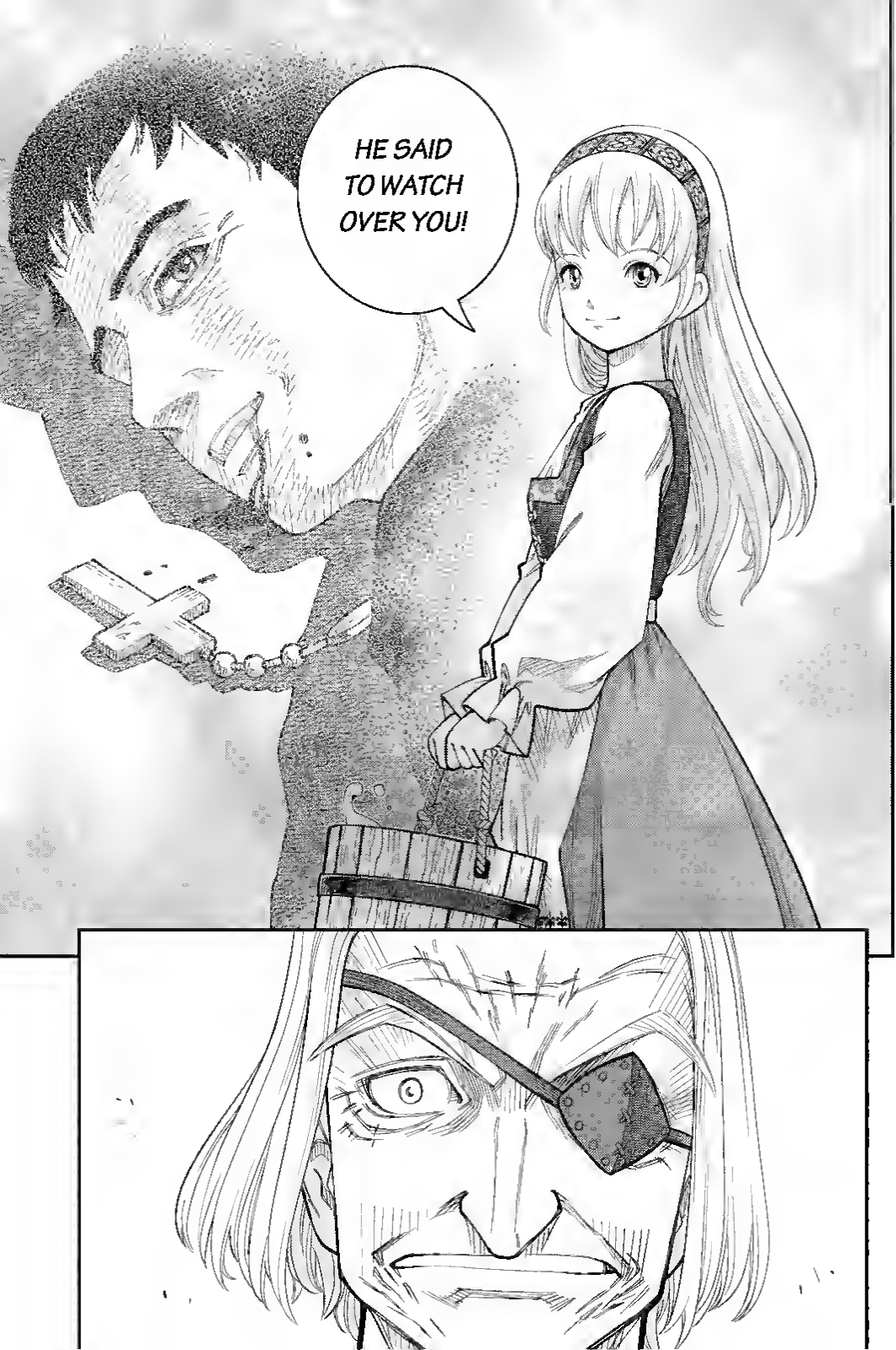
GOOD MORNING, CAPTAIN ŽIŽKA!

SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS ARE FLOCKING TO US..
EVEN THE DOUBTERS ARE GETTING ON BOARD THE BANDWAGON..
LOTS MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO STRENGTHEN OUR ARMY AND...

IF YOU'RE STAYING, I SINCERELY HOPE YOU'LL START TAKING THE FIGHTING SERIOUSLY!
SO, YOU DIDN'T RUN OFF AND JOIN THE NON-VIOLENCE PARTY?

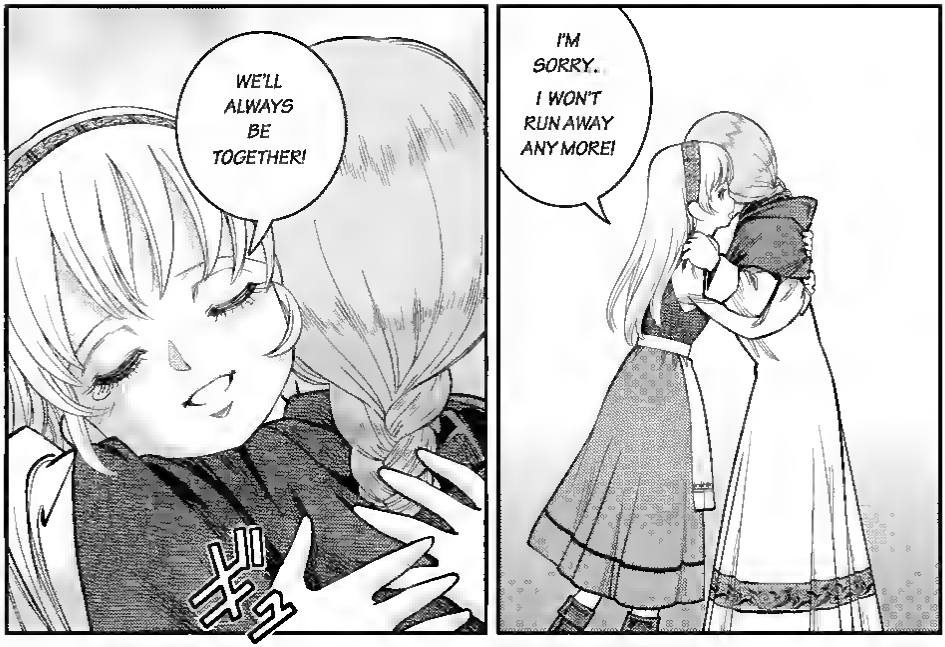
IT WAS FATHER MIKULÁŠ' FINAL REQUEST..
I REMEMBERED SOMETHING IMPORTANT

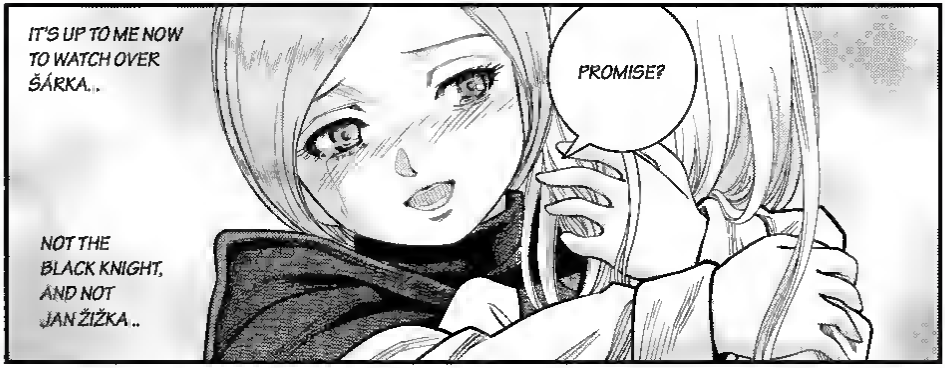
LA LA

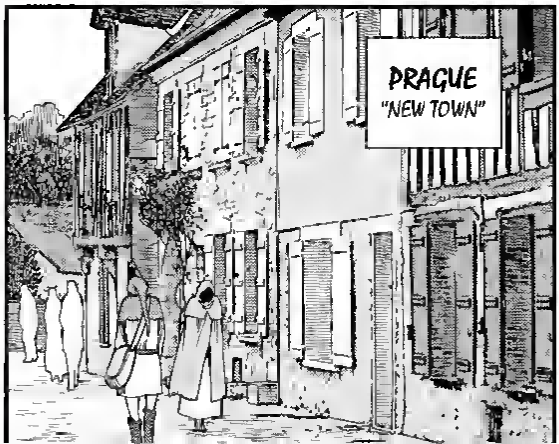

HE SAID TO WATCH OVER YOU!

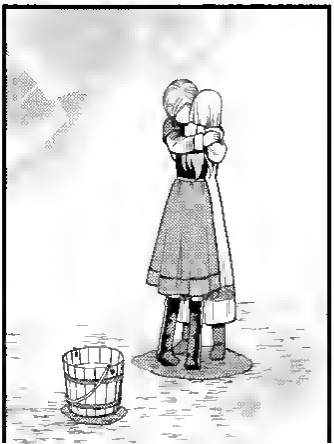
HMPH
I HIGHLY DOUBT IT!
IT'S TRUE! HE TOLD ME!
NOW A PIPSQUEAK IS MY GUARDIAN ANGEL?
WHAT ARE YOU HARPING ABOUT? SHOULDN'T THAT BE THE OTHER WAY ROUND?
IS IT TRUE, ŠÁRKA?
FATHER MIKULÁŠ... DID HE REALLY SAY THAT?
ANYWAY, THAT DOESN'T MATTER!
I RAN AFTER THOSE PACIFISTS I WAS CONVINCED, LIKE YOU...
GABRIELA, WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?

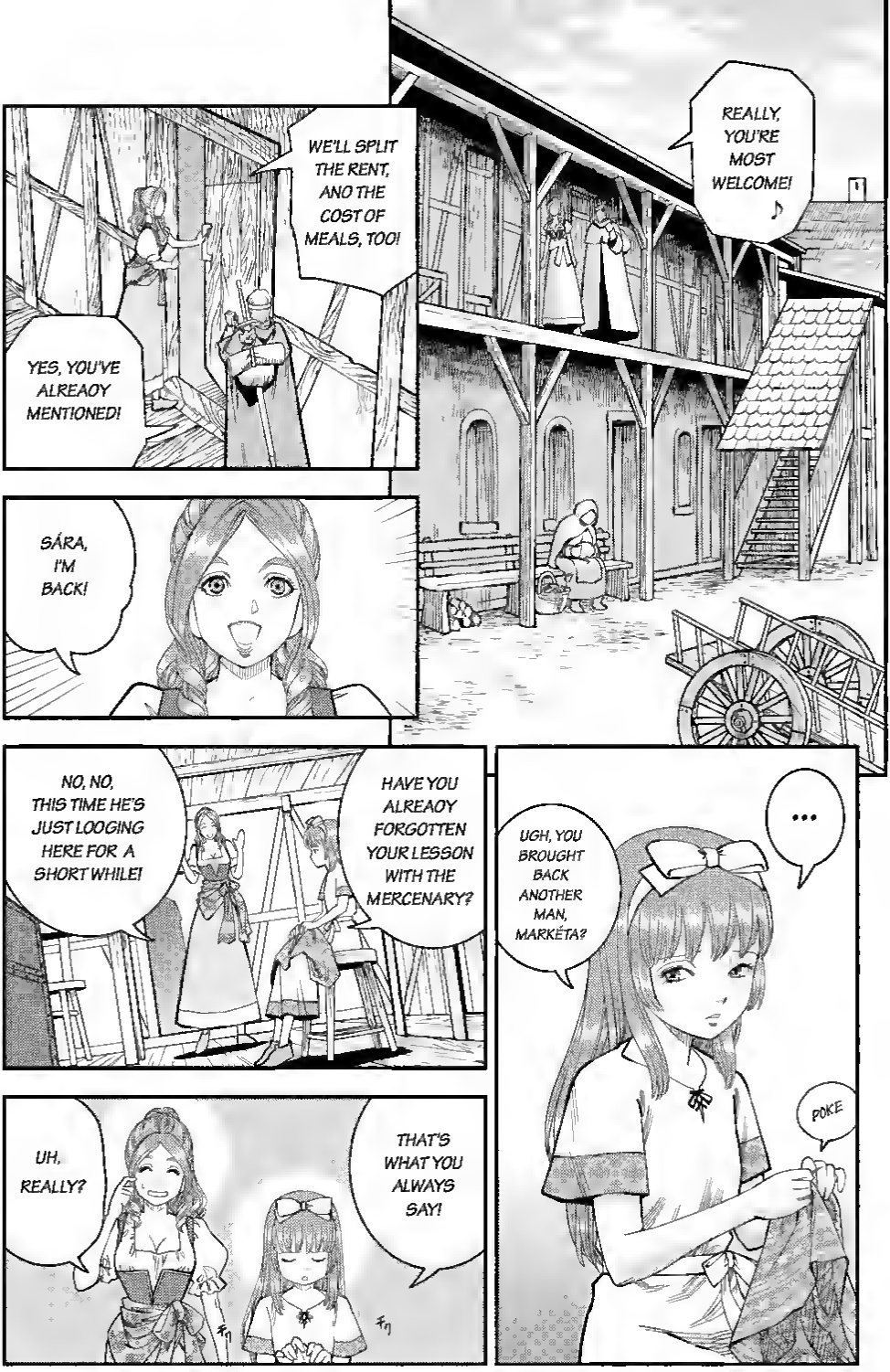
HE GAVE ME THIS TASK BEFORE HE DIED..
YES...
YES. I UNDERSTAND..
YES..
DON'T LEAVE ME ALL ALONE..
BUT PLEASE, PLEASE DON'T RUN AWAY..
GAB-RIELA..
IF THIS WAS WHAT HE WANTED, THEN I WILL FIGHT BY YOUR SIDE!
AFTER ALL, HE DID ENTRUST YOU TO ME!

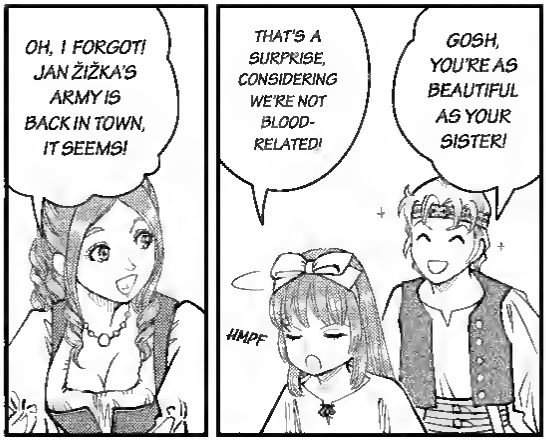

WE'LL ALWAYS BE TOGETHER!
I'M SORRY.
I WON'T RUN AWAY ANY MORE!


IT'S UP TO ME NOW TO WATCH OVER ŠÁRKA..
PROMISE?
NOT THE BLACK KNIGHT, AND NOT JAN ŽIŽKA..

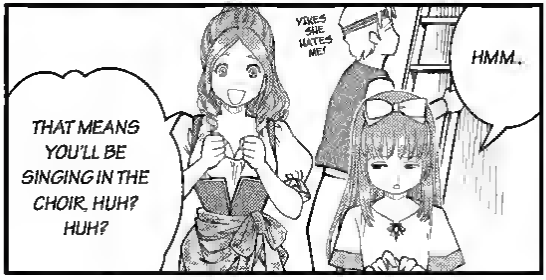

PRAGUE
"NEW TOWN"

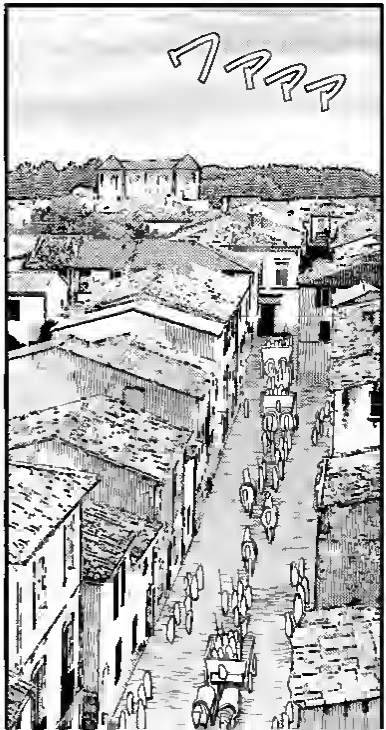



REALLY, YOU'RE MOST WELCOME! ♪
WE'LL SPLIT THE RENT, AND THE COST OF MEALS, TOO!
YES, YOU'VE ALREADY MENTIONED!
SÁRA, I'M BACK!
NO, NO, THIS TIME HE'S JUST LODGING HERE FOR A SHORT WHILE!
HAVE YOU ALREADY FORGOTTEN YOUR LESSON WITH THE MERCENARY?
UGH, YOU BROUGHT BACK ANOTHER MAN, MARKÉTA?
...
POKE
UH, REALLY?
THAT'S WHAT YOU ALWAYS SAY!


OH, I FORGOT! JAN ŽIŽKA'S ARMY IS BACK IN TOWN, IT SEEMS!
THAT'S A SURPRISE, CONSIDERING WE'RE NOT BLOOD-RELATED!
GOSH, YOU'RE AS BEAUTIFUL AS YOUR SISTER!
HMPF

MY NAME IS JAN JISKRA!
PLEASED TO MEET YOU, SÁRA!


YIKES SHE HATES ME!
HMM..
THAT MEANS YOU'LL BE SINGING IN THE CHOIR, HUH? HUH?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CHOIR?

SÁRA'S ONE OF THE MEMBERS! PRETTY IMPRESSIVE, HUH? HUH?
YEAH, DIDN'T I TELL YOU ABOUT THE "ANGELS' CHOIR"?
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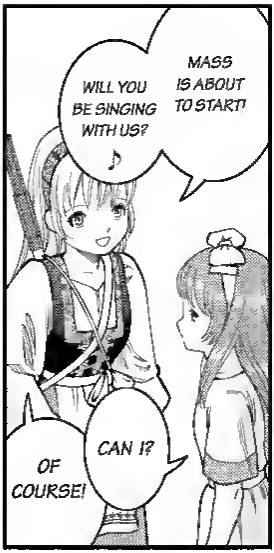
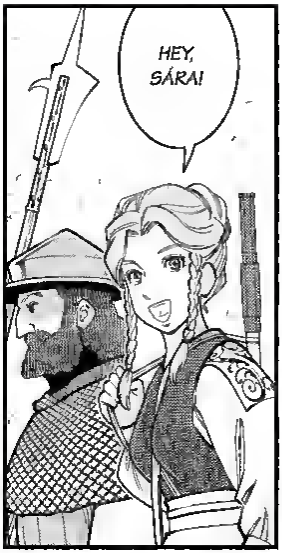
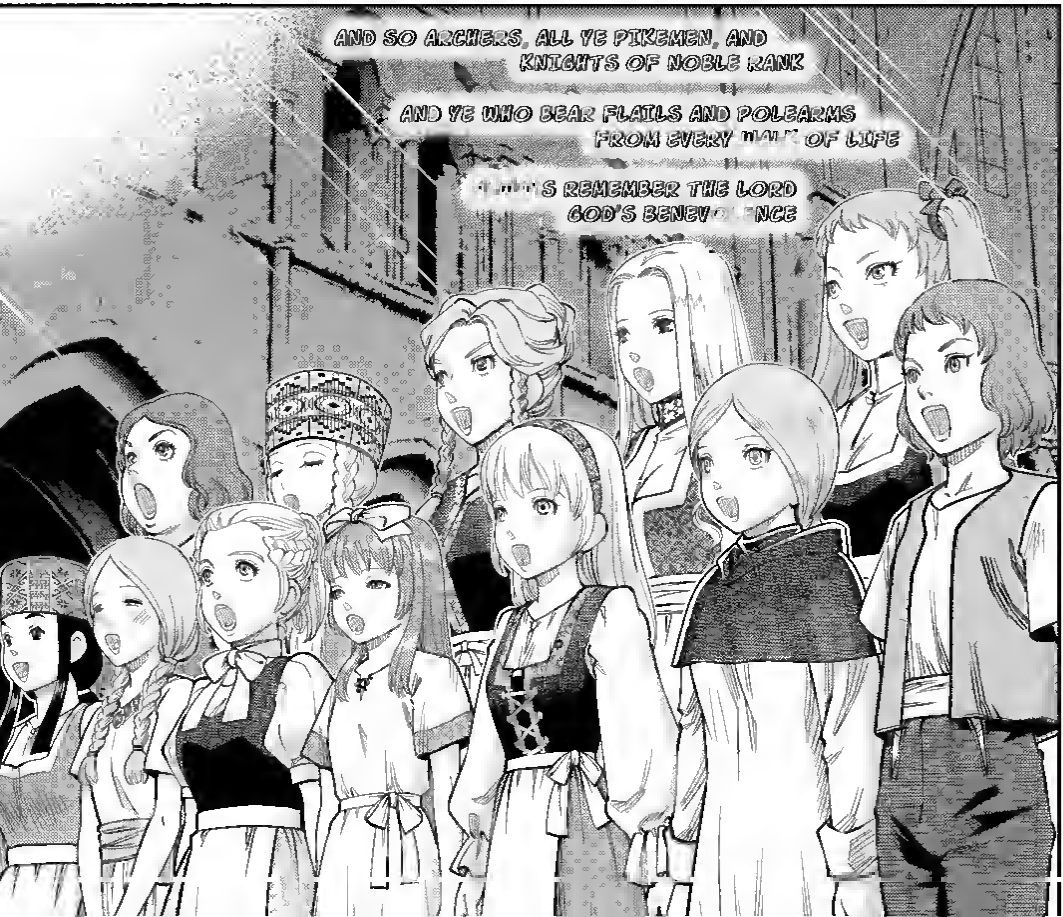
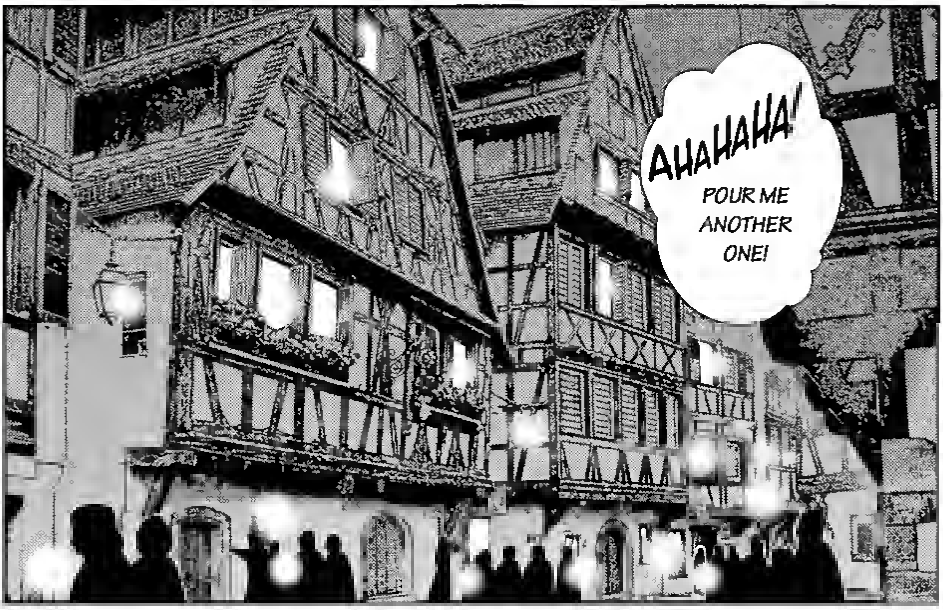

MASS IS ABOUT TO START!
WILL YOU BE SINGING WITH US?
♪
CAN I?
OF COURSE!

AND YOURSELF? EVERYONE STILL ALIVE?
YOU'VE BEEN DOING GOOD?
YEP!


HEY, SÁRA!


AND SO ARCHERS, ALL YE PIKEMEN, AND KNIGHTS OF NOBLE RANK
AND YE WHO BEAR FLAILS AND POLEARMS FROM EVERY WALK OF LIFE
LET'S REMEMBER THE LORD GOD'S BENEVOLENCE

THE SAVIOUR OF PRAGUE!
LONG LIVE THE HUSSITES!
IT'S JAN ŽIŽKA!
SO THAT'S THE CHOIR!
ME HEART'S POUNDIN'!
LOOK, LOOK, SÁRA'S WITH THEM! CAN YOU SEE?
THEY'RE GREAT!
BLESS THEM!
AFTER SUCH A MIRACULOUS VICTORY...
IT'S NO WONDER THE CITY'S SWOLLEN WITH PRIDE...
SWOLLEN TO BURSTING POINT AT THE PRICK OF A NEEDLE!


AHAHAHA!
POUR ME ANOTHER ONE!

THAT'S FANTASTIC, PETR!
LONG LIVE THE HUSSITES!
SHOON, IT'LL BE USH COMMON FOLK WHO'LL RULE OVER PRAGUE!

I YAM PETR THE BUTCHER, THE GREAT DEE-SHY-POLL OF FATHER ŽELIVSKÝ!

UP-STAIRS!
NEED ANY HELP?
NOW WHESSH THE TOILET?
BURP!

MAN, IT STINKS!
ギア
♪
♪
ゴト…!

IT WAS HERE IN BETHLEHEM CHAPEL THAT JAN HUS FIRST BEGAN PREACHING!
WE ARE AT THE HEART OF WHERE THIS WHOLE MOVEMENT ALL BEGAN!
CROWDS OF PEOPLE WOULD COME TO HEAR HIM SPEAK, FROM THE LOWLIEST AND HUMBLEST TO THE QUEEN HERSELF!
CAPTAIN ŽIŽKA AND FATHER MIKULÁŠ MUST ALSO HAVE ATTENDED HIS SERMONS!
WHAT AN HONOUR TO BE ABLE TO SING HERE!
GIRLS, IT'S INCREDIBLE!
ワイ
ワイ
HEY, DON'T PUSH!
I THINK LITTLE ŠÁRKA IS WONDER-FUL!
FOR ME, LAURA IS BEST BABE!
YOU, YER NOT FROM THIS PARISH!
SO WHAT? I'M HERE TO SEE THE "ANGELS' CHOIR"!
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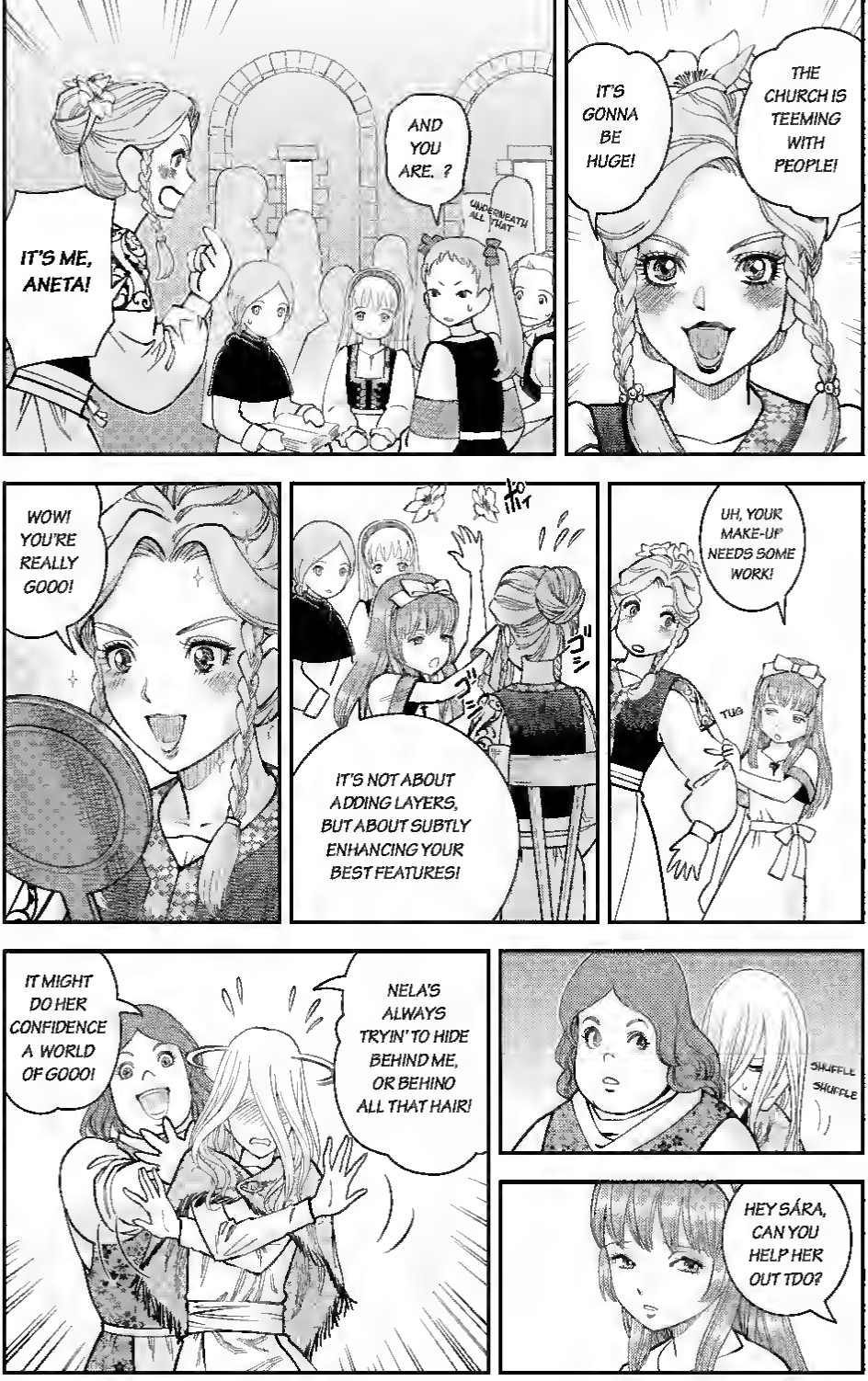
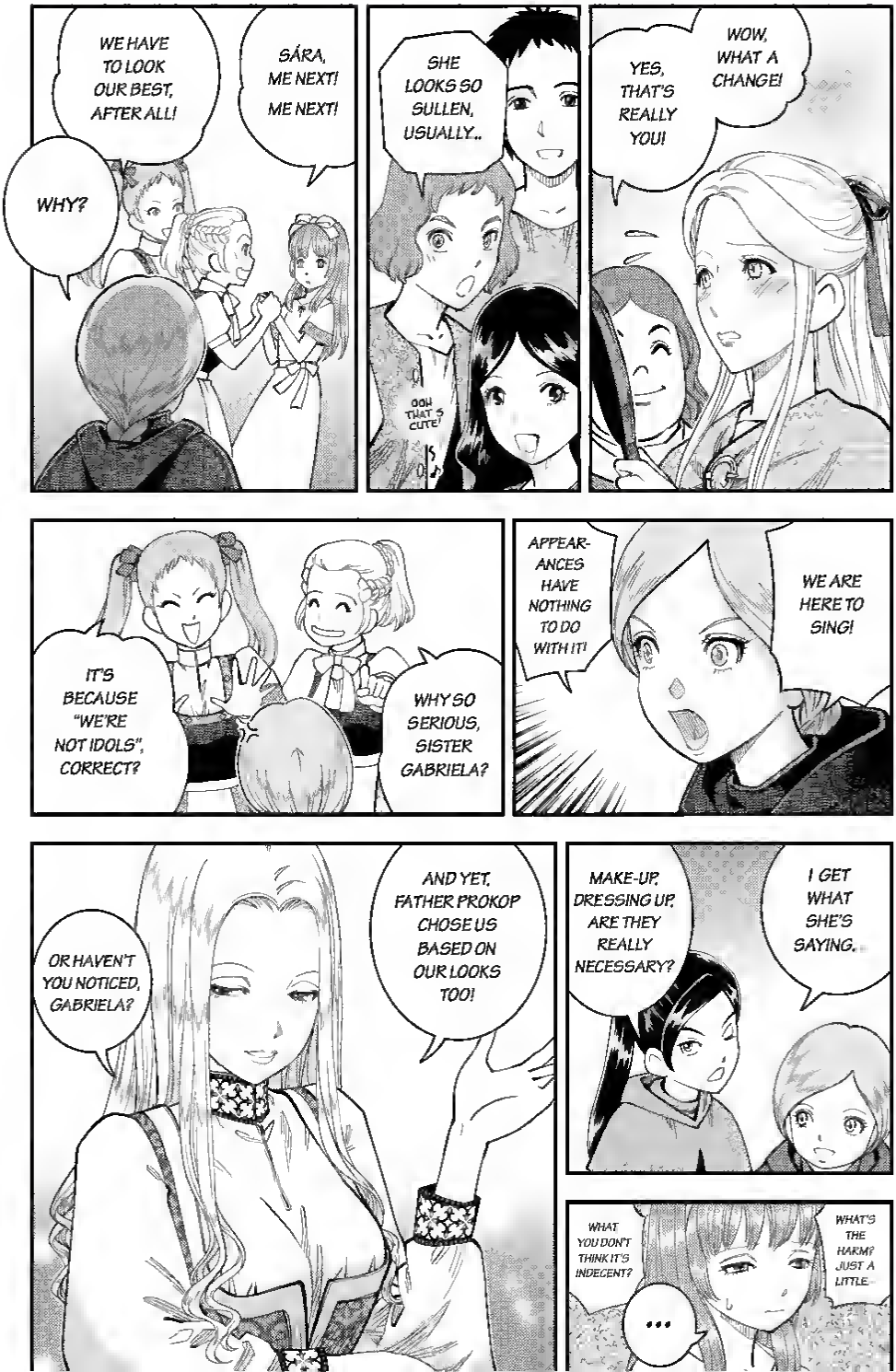

IT'S ME, ANETA!
AND YOU ARE...?
UNDERNEATH ALL THAT
THE CHURCH IS TEEMING WITH PEOPLE!
IT'S GONNA BE HUGE!
WOW! YOU'RE REALLY GOOO!
IT'S NOT ABOUT ADDING LAYERS, BUT ABOUT SUBTLY ENHANCING YOUR BEST FEATURES!
UH, YOUR MAKE-UP NEEDS SOME WORK!
TUG
IT MIGHT DO HER CONFIDENCE A WORLD OF GOOO!
NELA'S ALWAYS TRYIN' TO HIDE BEHIND ME, OR BEHIND ALL THAT HAIR!
SHUFFLE SHUFFLE
HEY SÁRA, CAN YOU HELP HER OUT TDO?


WE HAVE TO LOOK OUR BEST, AFTER ALL!
SÁRA, ME NEXT!
ME NEXT!
WHY?
SHE LOOKS SO SULLEN, USUALLY...
OOH THAT'S CUTE!
YES, THAT'S REALLY YOU!
WOW, WHAT A CHANGE!
IT'S BECAUSE "WE'RE NOT IDOLS", CORRECT?
WHY SO SERIOUS, SISTER GABRIELA?
APPEAR-ANCES HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!
WE ARE HERE TO SING!
OR HAVEN'T YOU NOTICED, GABRIELA?
AND YET, FATHER PROKOP CHOSE US BASED ON OUR LOOKS TOO!
MAKE-UP, DRESSING UP. ARE THEY REALLY NECESSARY?
I GET WHAT SHE'S SAYING.
WHAT YOU DON'T THINK IT'S INDECENT?
...
WHAT'S THE HARM? JUST A LITTLE.

IS THIS WHAT I REALLY LOOK LIKE?
AND ŠÁRKA'S VOICE AIN'T EXACTLY THE STRONGEST BY ANY STRETCH!
DIDN'T HE DROP SINGERS BETTER THAN YOU 'COS THEY WEREN'T ATTRACTIVE ENOUGH?
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
YOU'VE NEVER SEEN YOURSELF IN A MIRROR BEFORE?
NO, IT'S NOT! YOU'RE VERY BEAUTIFUL, ŠÁRKA!
MY HEAD'S ALL WEIRD-LOOKING
W-W-WHAT-EVER GAVE YOU THAT IDEA?
YOU THINK SO? 'COS I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU'RE THE PRETTY ONE!
MEH, NO BIGGIE!
UHH, I THINK WE'VE GONE WAY OFF-TOPIC!

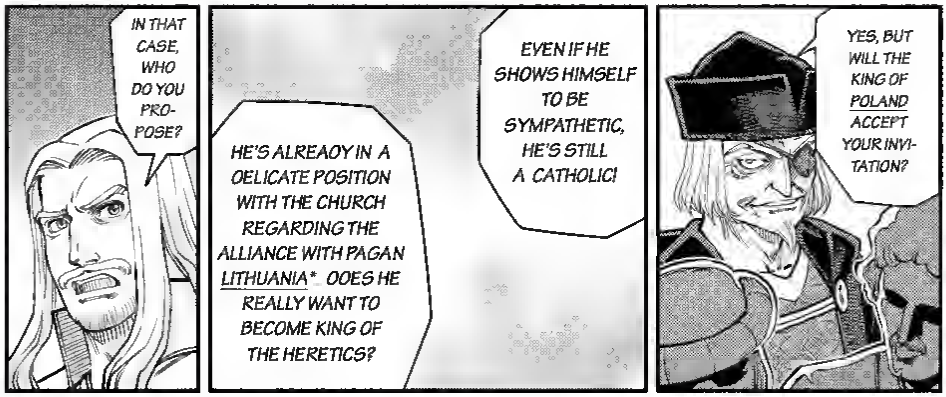
'COURSE YOU DO, GOES WITHOUT SAYING...
SORRY, LEMME RE-WORD MY QUESTION.
YES, OF COURSE I DO! ♪
DO YOU LIKE SINGING?
CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING, ŠÁRKA?
WHAT IS IT?
HUH...?
HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE YOU KILLED SO FAR?
LET'S ENTER THE CHAPEL!
RIGHT!!
IS EVERYONE READY?

BY THE WAY, WE HAVE NEW MEMBERS JOINING THE CHOIR. THEY'LL BE OBSERVING YOU TODAY!
PLEASED TO MEET YOU ALL!!
WELCOME!!
♪

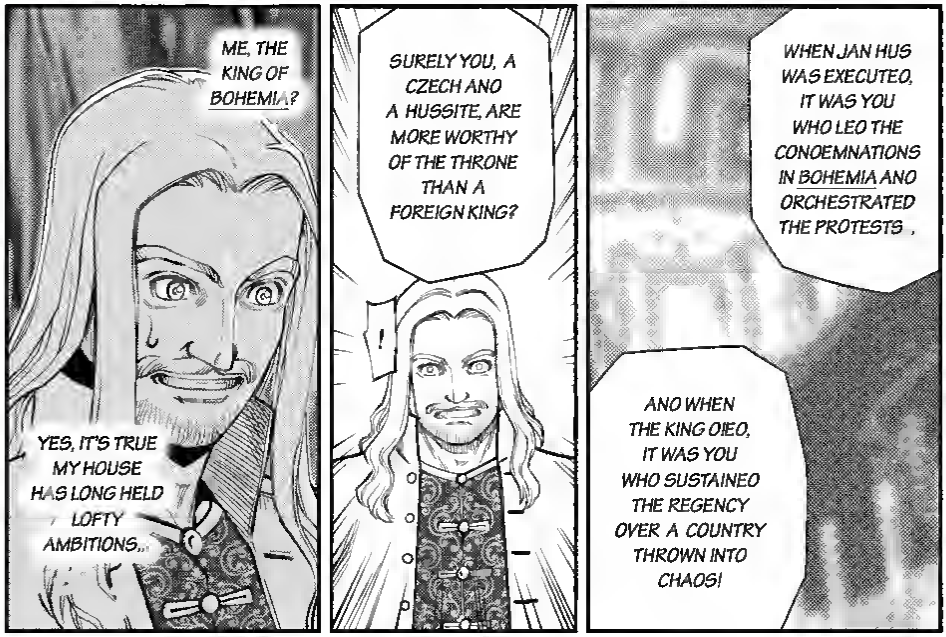
ROYAL PALACE
PRAGUE
WELL, WELL...
LOOKS LIKE ALL THE HUSSITE FACTIONS ARE GATHERED HERE!
ČENĚK OF WARTENBERG AND THE REST OF THE NOBILITY...
THERE'S US, THE TABORITE ARMY.
AND FINALLY, THE QUEEN IN THE SHADOWS...
THE UNIVERSITY MASTERS...
JAN ŽELIVSKÝ AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE "NEW TOWN"...
MEMBERS OF THE "OLD TOWN" AND OTHER HUSSITE DISTRICTS

TRULY, A REMARK-ABLE FEAT!
FIRST, MY CONGRATULATIONS TO JAN ŽIŽKA FOR BEATING BACK THE EMPEROR'S FORCES..
ŽOFIE OF BAVARIA
QUEEN DOWAGER AND REGENT OF BOHEMIA
MY LADY, 'TWAS A FEAT MADE ONLY POSSIBLE UNDER YOUR AUSPICES!
WHO WILL BE THE FUTURE SOVEREIGN OF BOHEMIA?
WHICH IS WHY I HAVE BROUGHT YOU ALL TOGETHER THIS DAY!
PAH, THAT TITLE IS MEANINGLESS WITHOUT OUR APPROVAL AND SUPPORT!
WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE WHO WE WANT AS MONARCH!
BUT IN SPITE ALL THIS, WE MUST REMEMBER, SIGISMUND HAS ALREADY BEEN CROWNED KING!

STATE OF THE TEUTONIC ORDER
POLISH-LITHUANIAN UNION
BOHEMIA
HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE
HUNGARY
THE POLES ARE CLOSELY ALLIED WITH THE GRAND DUCHY OF LITHUANIA, AND WERE VICTORIOUS AGAINST THE TEUTONIC KNIGHTS AT GRUNWALD. THEY ARE NOW A MAJOR FORCE IN THE CHRISTIAN WORLD!
MAY I PROPOSE WŁADYSŁAW II, THE KING OF POLAND!
THEIR POWER RIVALS THE COMBINED MIGHT OF HUNGARY AND THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE UNDER SIGISMUND!
WŁADYSŁAW II JAGIELLO
KING OF POLAND
TRUTH BE TOLD, I HAVE ALREADY DISPATCHED MESSENGERS ON THE GROUND. .
YOU DON'T WASTE ANY TIME, DO YOU, LORD WARTENBERG?
BUT ABOVE ALL ELSE, THE HUSSITE CAUSE HAS MANY SUPPORTERS IN POLAND, AND THE KING HIMSELF HAS SHOWN HIS INTEREST. .
I CANNOT THINK OF ANOTHER SOVEREIGN BETTER SUITED!


IN THAT CASE, WHO DO YOU PROPOSE?
HE'S ALREADY IN A DELICATE POSITION WITH THE CHURCH REGARDING THE ALLIANCE WITH PAGAN LITHUANIA*. DOES HE REALLY WANT TO BECOME KING OF THE HERETICS?
EVEN IF HE SHOWS HIMSELF TO BE SYMPATHETIC, HE'S STILL A CATHOLIC!
YES, BUT WILL THE KING OF POLAND ACCEPT YOUR INVITATION?

* DURING THIS PERIOD, THE MAJORITY OF LITHUANIANS HAD YET TO CONVERT TO CHRISTIANITY, HENCE THE CONFLICT WITH THE TEUTONIC ORDER.

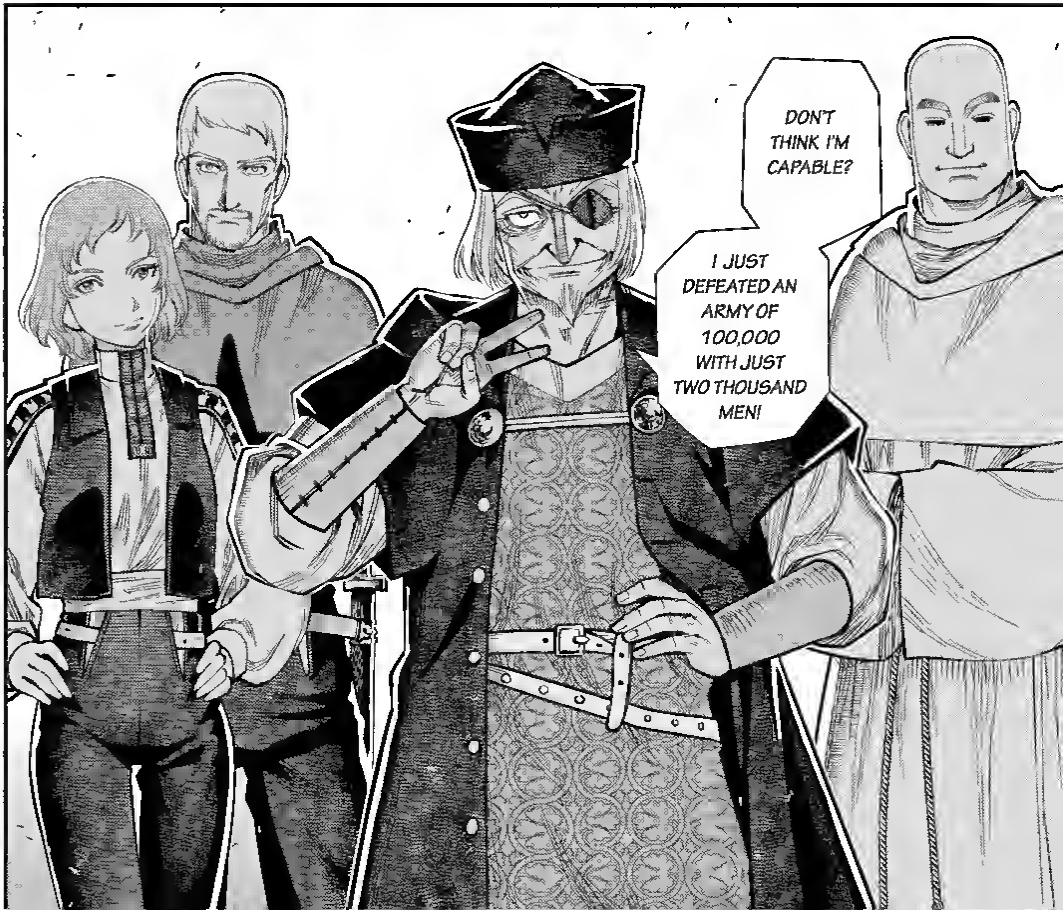

ME, THE KING OF BOHEMIA?
YES, IT'S TRUE MY HOUSE HAS LONG HELD LOFTY AMBITIONS...
SURELY YOU, A CZECH AND A HUSSITE, ARE MORE WORTHY OF THE THRONE THAN A FOREIGN KING?
!
WHEN JAN HUS WAS EXECUTED, IT WAS YOU WHO LED THE CONDEMNATIONS IN BOHEMIA AND ORCHESTRATED THE PROTESTS ,
AND WHEN THE KING DIED, IT WAS YOU WHO SUSTAINED THE REGENCY OVER A COUNTRY THROWN INTO CHAOS!

YOU OVERESTIMATE ME... OVER SUCH A RESPONSIBILITY, SURELY I AM NOT CAPABLE OF ASSUMING!
NO, I WON'T BE DRAWN INTO HIS GAME!
WHAT DOES THE QUEEN THINK?
IF IT IS TO BE HIM...
HMM
ENOUGH WITH THE PUSSYFOOTING! DO YOU HAVE THE BALLS, OR DON'T YOU!?
IF YOU BECOME KING, AND ENTRUST ME WITH THE ARMY...
NOW IT'S TIME TO RETURN THE FAVOUR!
ALL THE ARMIES OF EUROPE CAME TO RAVAGE BOHEMIA!

AND THE HUSSITE MOVEMENT WILL SPREAD ACROSS THE WHOLE OF CHRISTENDOM !!

I WILL CONQUER HUNGARY AND THE GERMAN STATES...
I WILL CROSS THE ALPS AND BRING ROME TO HER KNEES...
NO MATTER IF IT'S FRANCE OR ENGLAND, I WILL CRUSH ALL WHO STAND AGAINST US...

THE MAN HAS LOST HIS MIND!
RULING OVER THE WORLD!?
THE HUSSITES..


DON'T THINK I'M CAPABLE?
I JUST DEFEATED AN ARMY OF 100,000 WITH JUST TWO THOUSAND MEN!

AND HERE, WE HAVE THE ASTRONOMICAL CLOCK OF PRAGUE!
IT IS THE CITY'S PRIDE AND JOY, AND ITS BEAUTY IS RENOWNED THROUGHOUT EUROPE!
MAGNIFICENT!
OOOH...
YES, THAT'S IT!
WITH A CLOCK, WE'LL ALWAYS KNOW WHEN TO ATTEND MASS!
OH, OKAY.
LIKE, Y'KNOW...
WHAT FOR? UH WELL...
WHAT FOR?
YES, AND WITH ABSOLUTE PRECISION!
SO IT TELLS THE TIME?

AND OVER HERE IS THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY BEFORE TÝN!
WOW, IT'S MASSIVE!
I WOULD LOVE TO SING THERE TOO!
UNFORTUNATELY, THE CHURCH IS AS OF YET STILL UNFINISHED
THE CATHEDRAL AT PRAGUE CASTLE IS ALSO PRETTY BIG!
DIDN'T I SAY "ND SNACKING"?
WHAT ARE YOU MUNCHING ON, YOUNG LADY?
SO MANY BUILDINGS, SO MANY PEOPLE. .
PRAGUE IS AMAZING!
HEH HEH . I LOVE MY CITY, AND IT FEELS SO GREAT WHENEVER I HEAR COMPLIMENTS LIKE THAT!
WHY OON'T I SHDW YOU ARDUND?
WANNA GO AND SEE THE CASTLE?
WE GET TO CRDSS THE GREAT STONE BRIDGE DN THE WAY THERE!

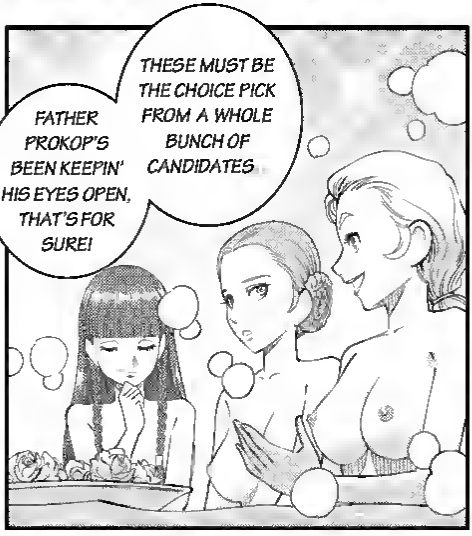
I'M SO JEALOUS!
LUCKY GIRL!
I HOPE SO, TOO!
WHO'S TANJA?
I'M ŠÁRKA!
I HOPE WE CAN BE FRIENDS!
YOU REMIND ME A LITTLE OF TANJA!
YEP, BUT YOU CAN CALL ME "IRMA"!
UHH... IRMGARD, WAS IT?
SO WHERE TO NEXT?
YES, I NOTICED...
DARLING...
SORRY ABOUT THAT...
AHH, YOU SIMPLE FOLK WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND!
EH?--
WHY THE APOLOGY?
SO YOUR DAD'S A KNIGHT?
YOU KNOW, THE CASTLE'S NOT BAD AND ALL...
BUT IF WE REALLY WANT TO BOND AS A GROUP, I KNOW A BETTER PLACE!
LIKE WHAT?

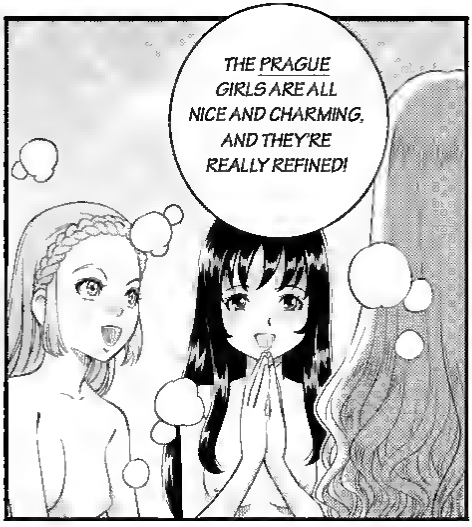
WHOA!
♪
PRESENTING... THE PUBLIC BATHS OF PRAGUE!
IT COMBINES THE LARGE, "GERMAN-STYLE" POOL WITH THE SAUNA, "BOHEMIAN-STYLE"!
♪
C'MON GIRLS, LET'S GET SCRUBBING!
WITH THE ARMY CONSTANTLY ON THE MARCH, WE RARELY GET A CHANCE TO BATHE!
VERY IMPRESSIVE!

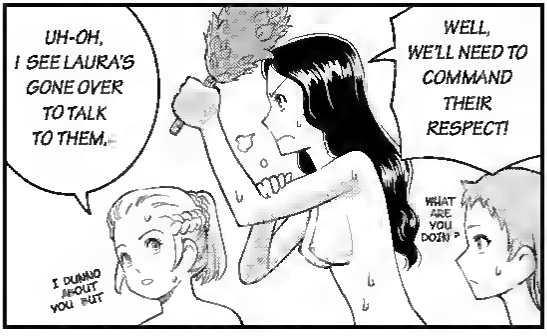
SORRY!
OAT A GUY?
NEVER WOULD VE GUESSED!
HUH?
OIS THE WOMEN'S BATHS, RIGHT?
OOPSY!
WHOA! CHECK OUT ALL THE HOT CHICKS!
SO, YOU'RE WORKING HERE NOW?
OH, IT'S MASTER HROMÁOKA ANO THE CHOIR BOYS! WELCOME, WELCOME!
BUT MASTER
HEY, YOU GOT OAT MONEY?
REALLY? WHERE ALL THE RICH PEOPLE HANG OUT?
WOULO YOU LIKE TO GO UPSTAIRS? WE CAN GIVE YOU A OISCOUNT!

THOSE NEW RECRUITS, THEY'RE REALLY TRYING TO IMPRESS, AREN'T THEY?
EH, WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YES, THEY ARE!

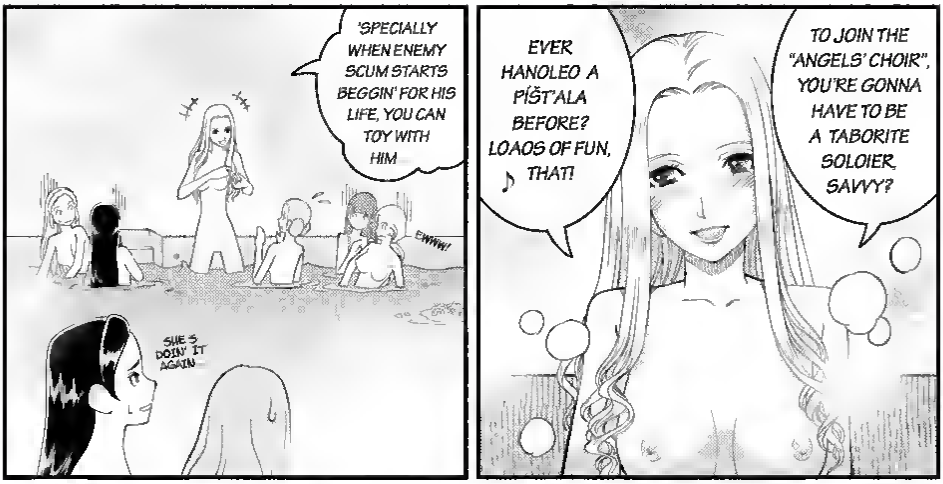
WHAT IS IT? SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS?
LEMME HAVE A LOOK!
OH NO, A PEEPING TOM?


THESE MUST BE THE CHOICE PICK FROM A WHOLE BUNCH OF CANDIDATES
FATHER PROKOP'S BEEN KEEPIN' HIS EYES OPEN, THAT'S FOR SURE!


THE PRAGUE GIRLS ARE ALL NICE AND CHARMING, AND THEY'RE REALLY REFINED!


UH-OH, I SEE LAURA'S GONE OVER TO TALK TO THEM.
WELL, WE'LL NEED TO COMMAND THEIR RESPECT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOIN'?
I DUNNO ABOUT YOU BUT

I REALLY NEED TO LOSE SOME WEIGHT...
I REALLY NEED TO PACK SOME WEIGHT..


'SPECIALLY WHEN ENEMY SCUM STARTS BEGGIN' FOR HIS LIFE, YOU CAN TOY WITH HIM
EWWW!
SHE'S DOIN' IT AGAIN
EVER HANOLED A PÍŠŤ'ALA BEFORE? LOADS OF FUN, THAT!
TO JOIN THE "ANGELS' CHOIR", YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO BE A TABORITE SOLDIER, SAVVY?

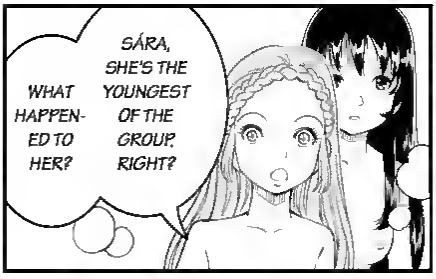
BUT I DION'T KNOW HOW TO ANSWER HER...
SÁRA CAME TO ME FOR ADVICE

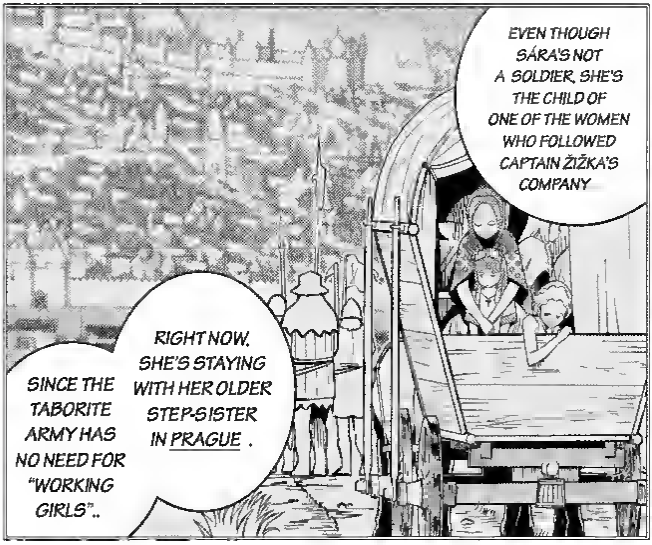
KATEŘINA, DO YOU KNOW WHERE SÁRA IS RIGHT NOW?

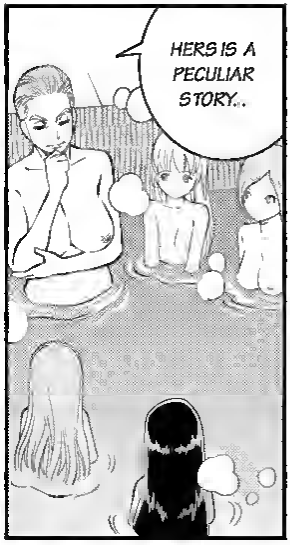
SHE DOIN' ALL RIGHT IN THE CHOIR?
SHE SAID SHE HAD TO HELP HER SISTER OUT TODAY.
ANOTHER CUP, PLEASE!

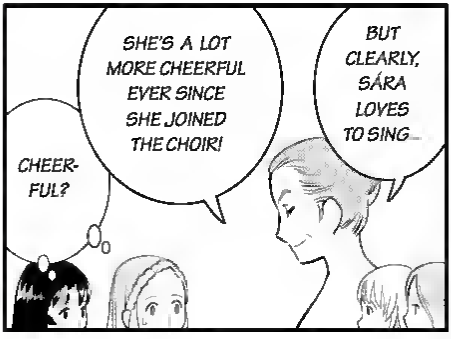
OH, RIGHT
I GUESS THAT'S WHY SHE CAME TO ME.
YOU'RE OUR SHARP-SHOOTER, AFTER ALL!

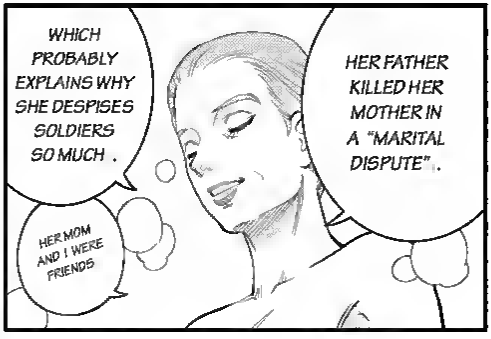
SHE'D LIKE TO STAY IN THE CHOIR, BUT SHE SAID SHE'S NOT UP TO FIGHTING..
SHE SAID SHE HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN BECOMING A SOLDIER OR BEING A "WORKING GIRL".


WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?
SÁRA, SHE'S THE YOUNGEST OF THE GROUP, RIGHT?


EVEN THOUGH SÁRA'S NOT A SOLDIER, SHE'S THE CHILD OF ONE OF THE WOMEN WHO FOLLOWED CAPTAIN ŽIŽKA'S COMPANY
SINCE THE TABORITE ARMY HAS NO NEED FOR "WORKING GIRLS"..
RIGHT NOW, SHE'S STAYING WITH HER OLDER STEP-SISTER IN PRAGUE .

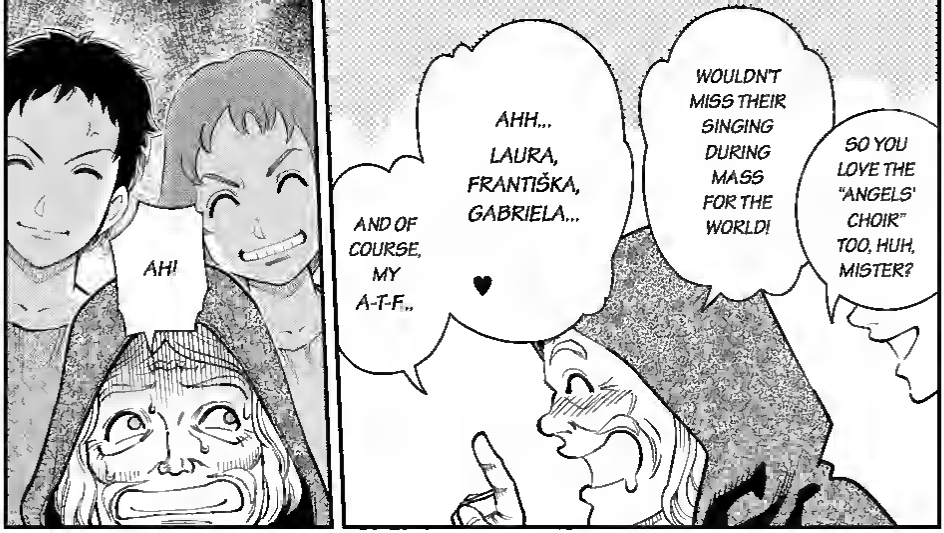

HERS IS A PECULIAR STORY..


CHEERFUL?
SHE'S A LOT MORE CHEERFUL EVER SINCE SHE JOINED THE CHOIR!
BUT CLEARLY, SÁRA LOVES TO SING...

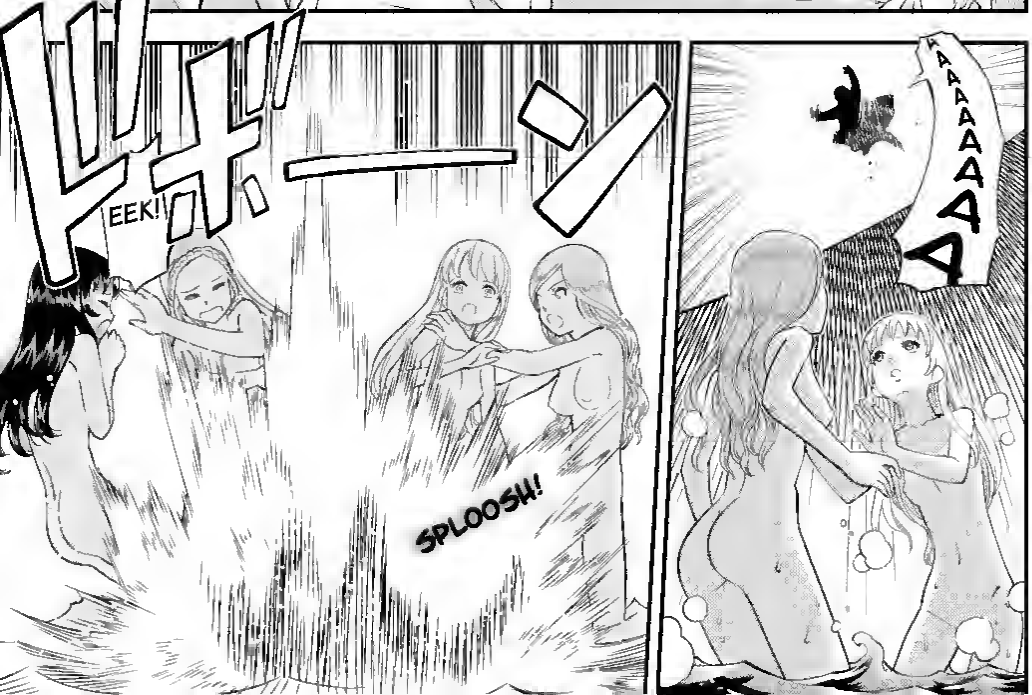

HER MOM AND I WERE FRIENDS
WHICH PROBABLY EXPLAINS WHY SHE DESPISES SOLDIERS SO MUCH .
HER FATHER KILLED HER MOTHER IN A "MARITAL DISPUTE"..

BUT THE "ANGELS' CHOIR", HAVING SOMEONE LIKE HER AROUND..
Y'KNOW, SOME ARE INTO THAT SORT OF THING..
WHO, SÁRA? C'MON, SHE'S STILL A KID!
URŠULA, CAN YOU NOT COWER BEHIND ME RIGHT NOW?
I WONDER IF SHE'S SEEING "OTHER PEOPLE" RIGHT NOW..
IS THAT WHAT YOU THINK, GABRIELA?
UH, WELL..
FIRST OF ALL, IT'S NOT LIKE YOU CAN PROVE IT OR ANYTHING, BUT...
...
SÁRA!
'COS WHORES CAN'T JOIN THE CHOIR, IS THAT IT?
IF SHE REPENTS LIKE MARY MAGDALENE DID

...!!
AND YOU SOLDIERS ARE ALL WITHOUT SIN! RIGHT, MURDERER!?
MY, MY, MY! LOOK AT ALL THOSE ♪ NYMPHS, DRESSED AS THE DAY THEY WERE BORN!

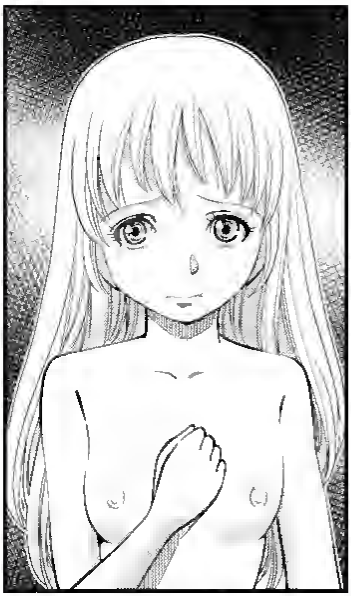

AH!
AND OF COURSE, MY A-T-F.,
AHH... LAURA, FRANTIŠKA, GABRIELA...
WOULDN'T MISS THEIR SINGING DURING MASS FOR THE WORLD!
SO YOU LOVE THE "ANGELS' CHOIR" TOO, HUH, MISTER?

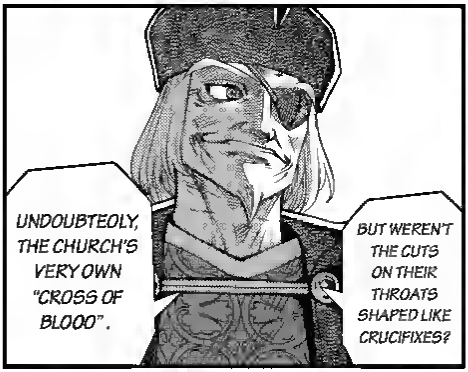
STOP ARGUING THIS INSTANT!
A MURDERER'S A MURDERER!
WE FIGHT TO DEFEND THE TRUE FAITH!
YOU TAKE THAT BACK RIGHT NOW!


ドッーシ
EEK!
SPLOOSH!
AAAAAA

I'M IN HEAVEN NOW, RIGHT?
OOH, ŠÁRKA... MY FAVOURITE!
プカァ
HORNY TOAD!
GO TO HELL, YOU!
HEY, YOU'RE JUST PERVING ON US, TOO!
EEK!
YEAH, GIVE IT TO HIM GOOD!
SÁRA
I'LL GET YOU BACK!
ONE DAY PANCAKE CHEST

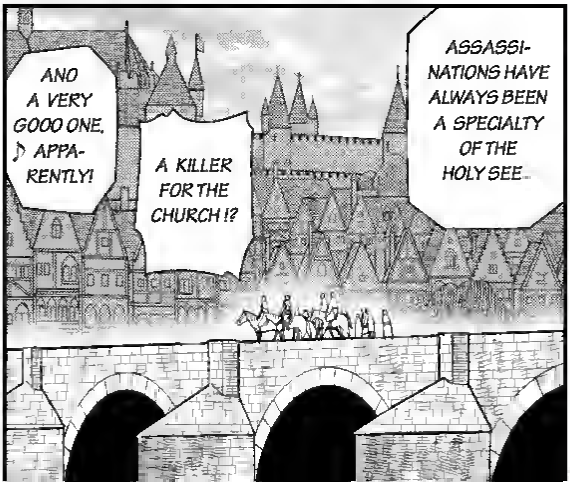
HEH HEH HEH! YOU'RE UNUSUALLY QUIET TODAY, FATHER ŽELIVSKY!



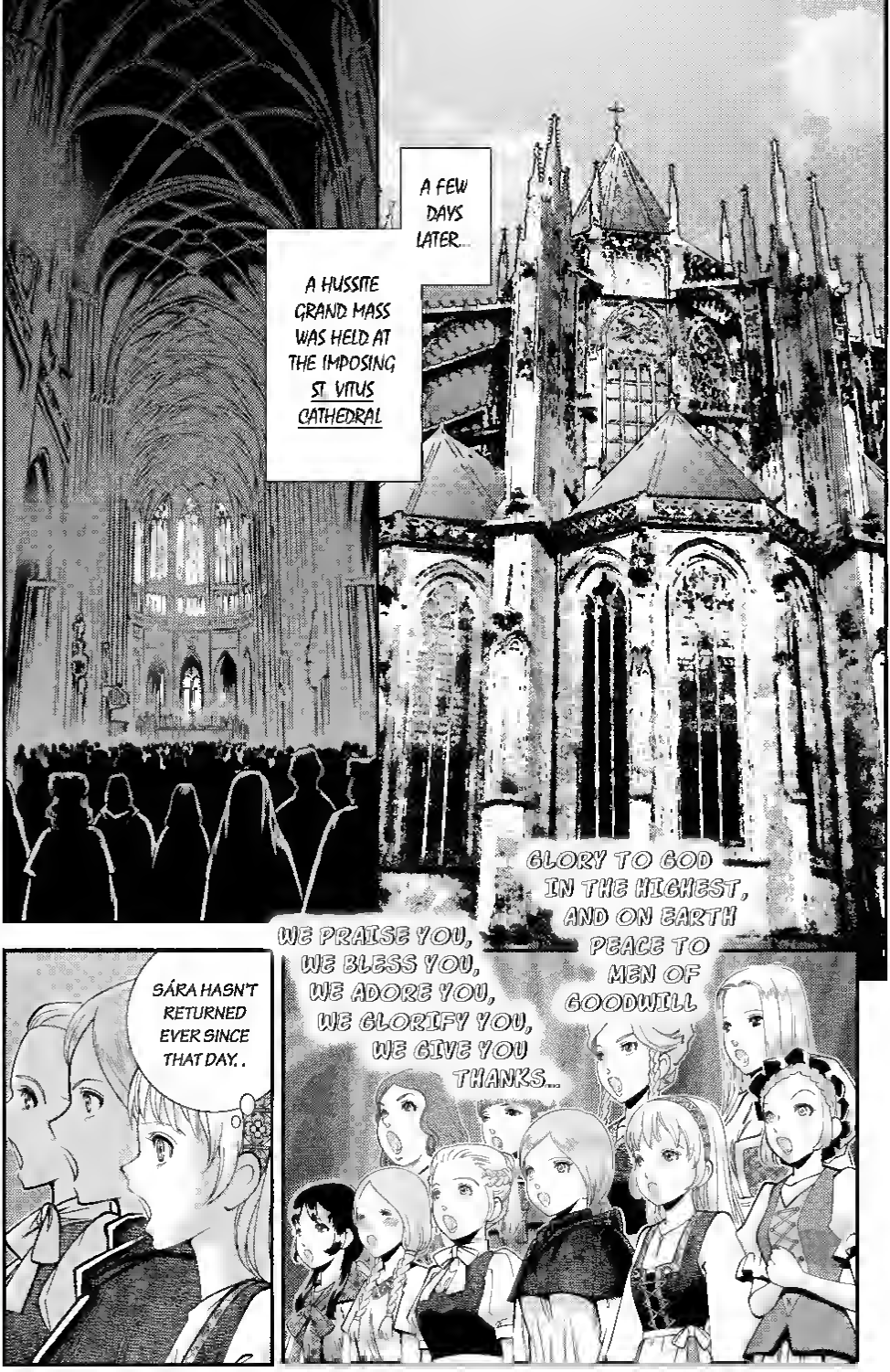

UNDOUBTEDLY, THE CHURCH'S VERY OWN "CROSS OF BLOOD".
BUT WEREN'T THE CUTS ON THEIR THROATS SHAPED LIKE CRUCIFIXES?

THE WORK OF SOME UNSCRUPULOUS NOB, I'M SURE OF IT!
THIS IS NO LAUGHING MATTER! MY MEN ARE BEING KILLED LEFT AND RIGHT!

AND HE WOULD ONLY HAVE TO WAIT IN THE SHADOWS OF THAT TOWER FOR HIS NEXT TARGET...
EEEK!


AND A VERY GOOD ONE, ♪ APPARENTLY!
A KILLER FOR THE CHURCH!?
ASSASSINATIONS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A SPECIALTY OF THE HOLY SEE...

HEH HEH HEH! YOU SHAKING?
M-ME? I'M NOT SHA-KING!
LOOKS LIKE MY USUAL "CROSS" WON'T BE ENOUGH...
EVEN GETTING UP CLOSE WILL BE A CHALLENGE.
キャキ
NO SOUND OF LAUGHTER. KOHÁČ AND VLASTA TODAY EH?
THEY CERTAINLY HAVE THEIR GUARD UP.
NO,— FOR HIM, I'LL HAVE SOMETHING SPECIAL IN STORE! ♪

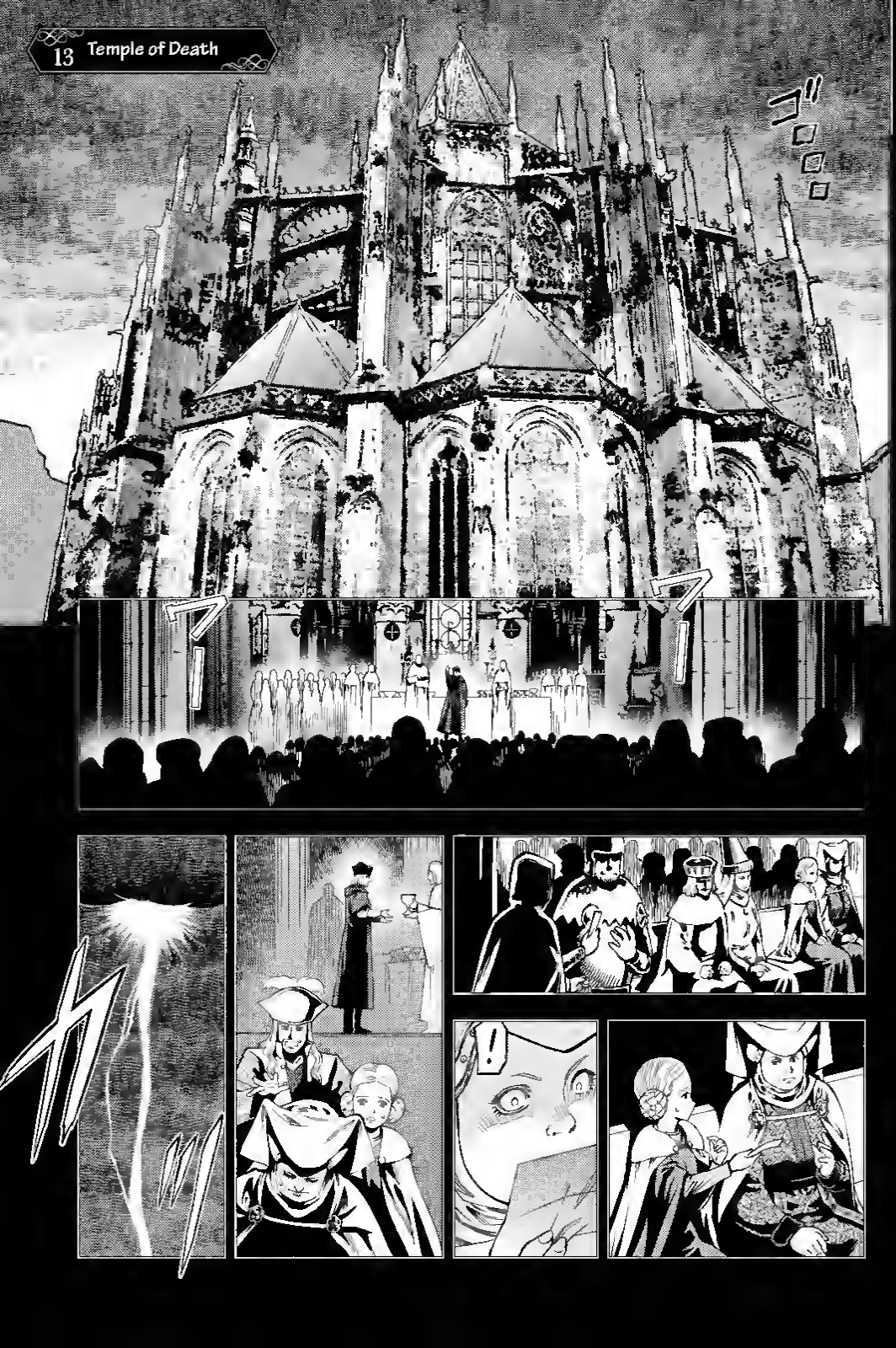

A FEW DAYS LATER...
A HUSSITE GRAND MASS WAS HELD AT THE IMPOSING ST. VITUS CATHEDRAL
GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE TO MEN OF GOODWILL
WE PRAISE YOU, WE BLESS YOU, WE ADORE YOU, WE GLORIFY YOU, WE GIVE YOU THANKS...
SÁRA HASN'T RETURNED EVER SINCE THAT DAY..

THEY'VE RALLIED TO THE HUSSITE CAUSE!
THE LORDS WARTENBERG, ROŽMBERK, ŠVAMBERK... THE HIGH NOBILITY ARE ALL IN ONE PLACE!
OOH, IT'S QUEEN ŽOFIE!
ON THIS DAY, THE HUSSITE MOVEMENT WAS AT ITS VERY PEAK...
THE SAVIOUR OF PRAGUE!
JAN ŽIŽKA!
THE ONE-EYED OF TROCNOVA!

HE REALLY INTENDS TO EXTEND OUR RULE ALL THE WAY TO ROME?
WE CAN DO IT! WE HAVE RIGHT ON OUR SIDE!
I'M JOININ' THE TABORITE ARMY!
オオオオ
WOW, YOU CAN HEAR THE EXCITEMENT!
NORMALLY WE SHOULDN'T BE TALKING DURING MASS!
WE MUST STRIKE WHILE THE IRON IS HOT.
BEFORE THE ENEMY CAN RECOVER FROM THEIR DEFEAT..
BUT THAT MEANS...
!?
QUEEN ŻOFIE?

スパン
…!!
ビィィン

Dívčí Válka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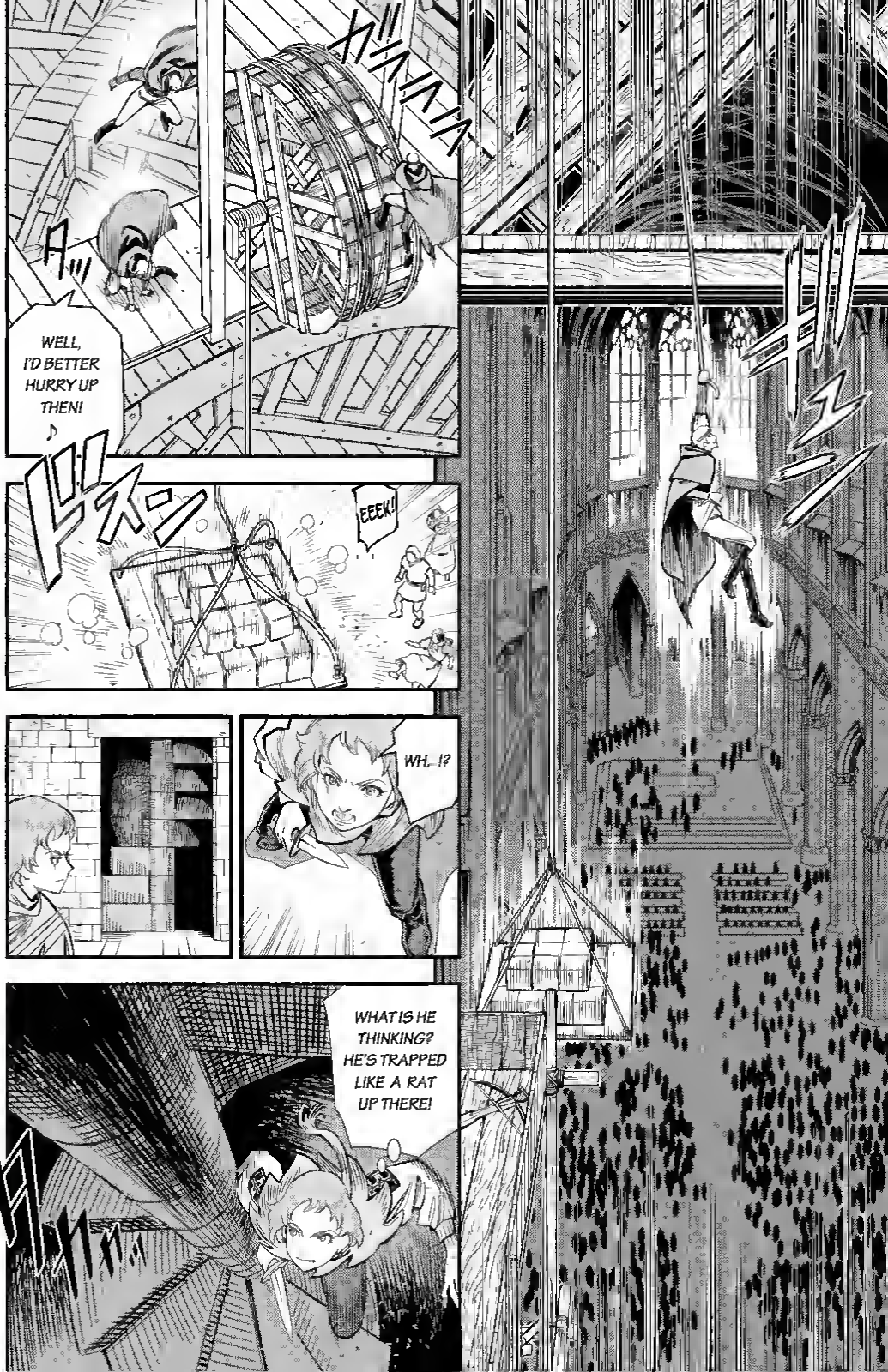
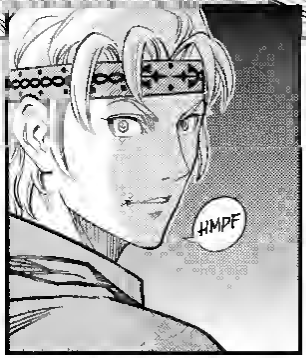
...!!
AN ATTACK!?
ŠÁRKA!?
CAPTAIN ŽIŽKA!

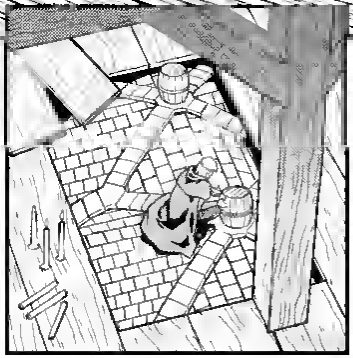
FORM A CIRCLE!
CURSES! WHERE DID IT COME FROM !?
CAPTAIN !!
SCAFFOLD... BELOW THE TRANSEPT... DON'T LET HIM ESCAPE!

ゴゴゴ

FROM THAT FAR OUT!?
TAKE CARE OF THE CAPTAIN!
THAT'LL DO THE TRICK! ♪
MOVE ASIDE!
EEEK!
THEY'RE LIVING UP TO THEIR REPUTATION!
NOT WASTING ANY TIME, HUH?


WELL, I'D BETTER HURRY UP THEN! ♪
EEEK!
WH, I?
WHAT IS HE THINKING? HE'S TRAPPED LIKE A RAT UP THERE!


HMPF

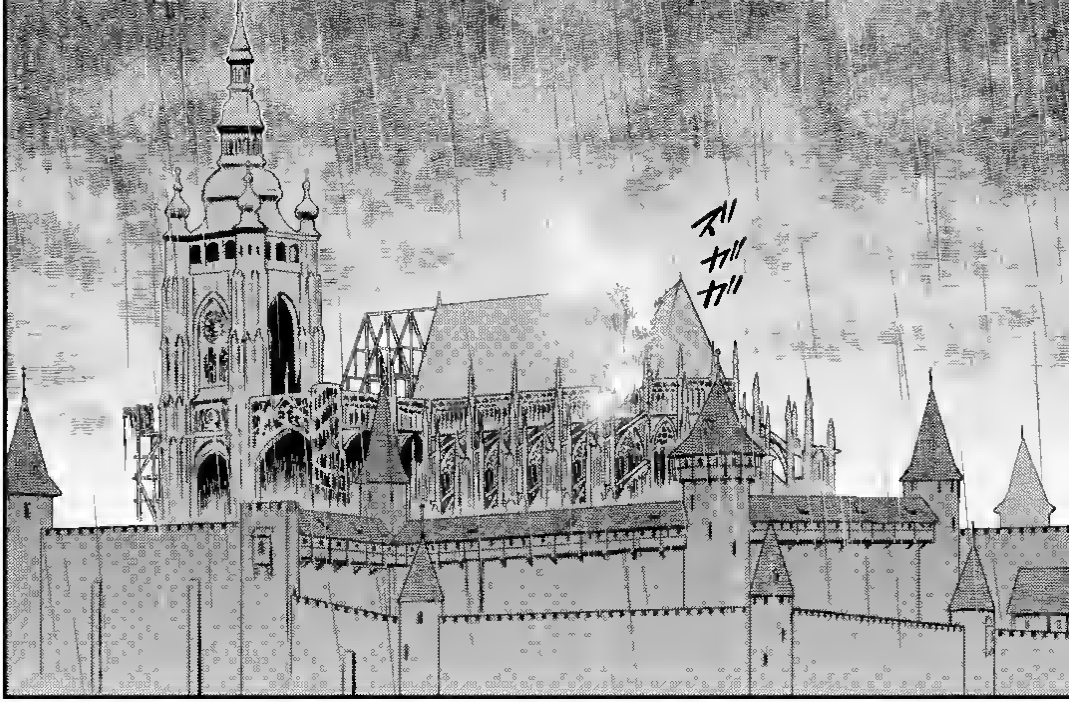


RUN! EVERYONE GET OUTTA HERE!

THE KEYSTONES!

ズゴゴ…

CAPTAIN ŽIŽKA!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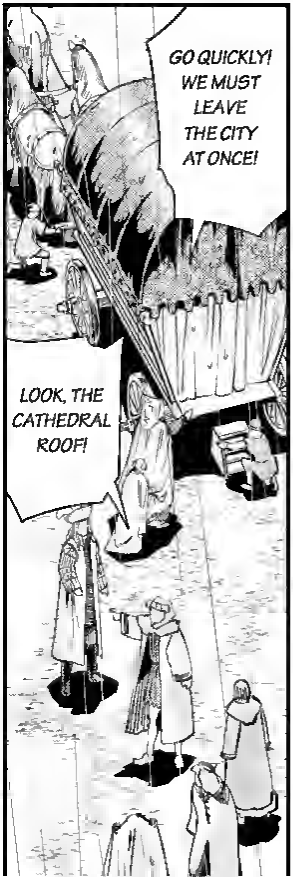
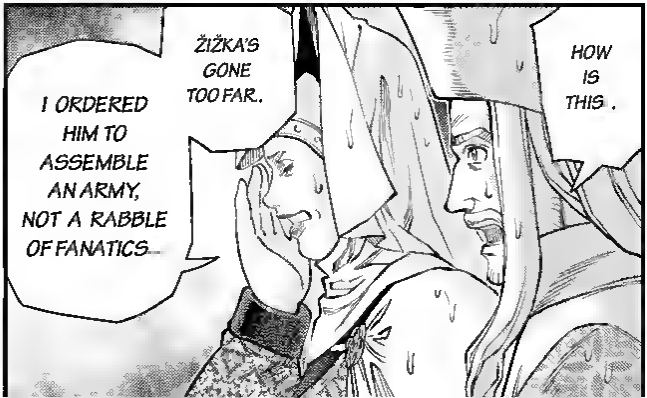
"DEATH AND RUIN WILL BEFALL JAN ŽIŽKA AND THOSE WHO FOLLOW HIM"...?

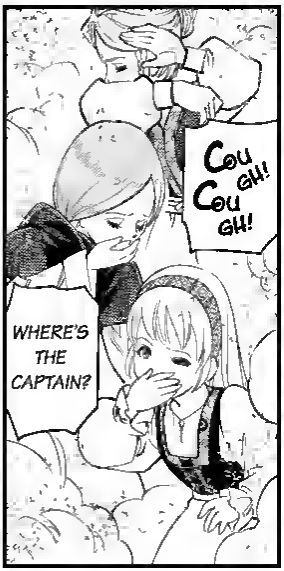
MY LADY, YOU KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN!?
I RECEIVED A MESSAGE JUST BEFORE...

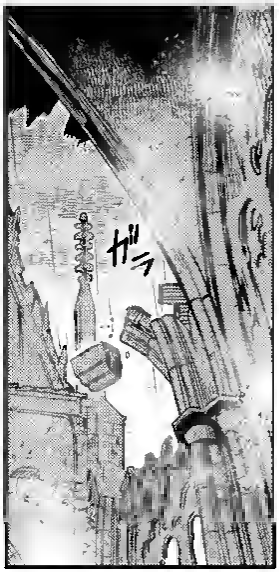

GO QUICKLY! WE MUST LEAVE THE CITY AT ONCE!
LOOK, THE CATHEDRAL ROOF!


I ORDERED HIM TO ASSEMBLE AN ARMY, NOT A RABBLE OF FANATICS...
ŽIŽKA'S GONE TOO FAR..
HOW IS THIS.

THIS IS THE PRICE FOR INCURRING THE WRATH OF THE CHURCH!
MARK THIS MOMENT WELL IN YOUR MINDS...

I NEED HELP!!
OVER HERE!


Cou GH! Cou GH!
WHERE'S THE CAPTAIN?



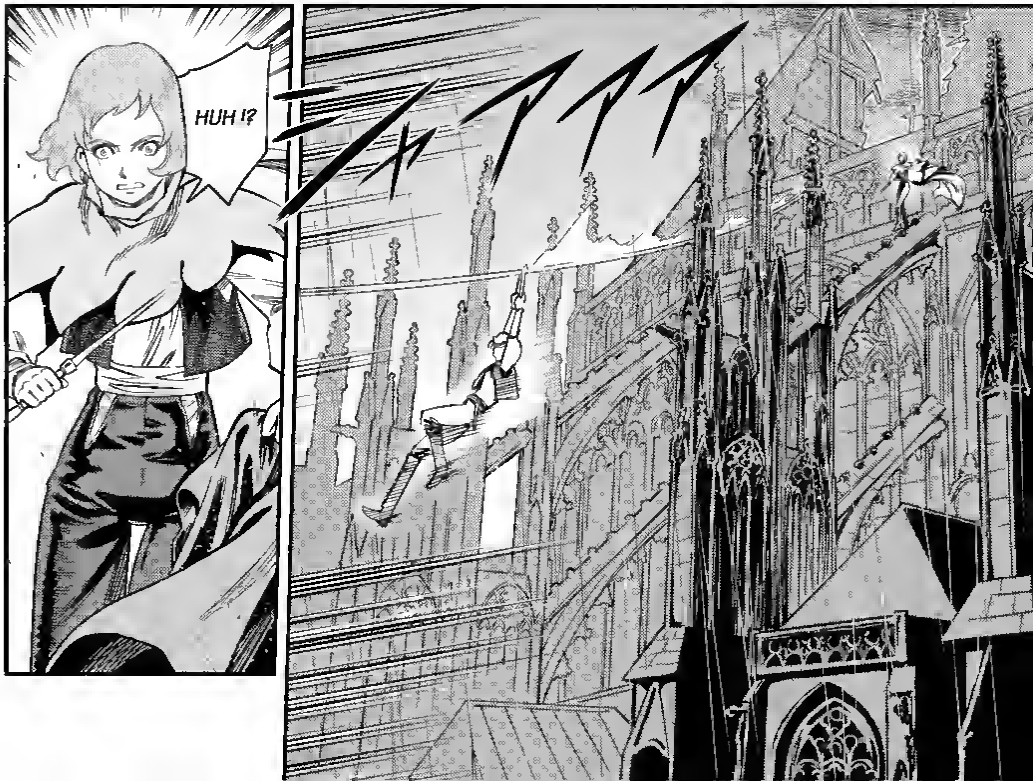
AT ONCE, MASTER ROHAČ!
MORE STONES COULD STILL FALL!
WE MUST MOVE AWAY FROM THE AISLE!
ARGH...
HOLD ON, MY LOVE!
GOD'S BLOOD! THEY DIDN'T MISS, DID THEY!?
FATHER PROKOP!
HOW'S THE CAPTAIN?
DID IT WORK?
TIME I MADE MY EXIT. .
RIGHT AWAY!
BRING WINE AND FIRE! HURRY!

LIKE I'D LET YOU!

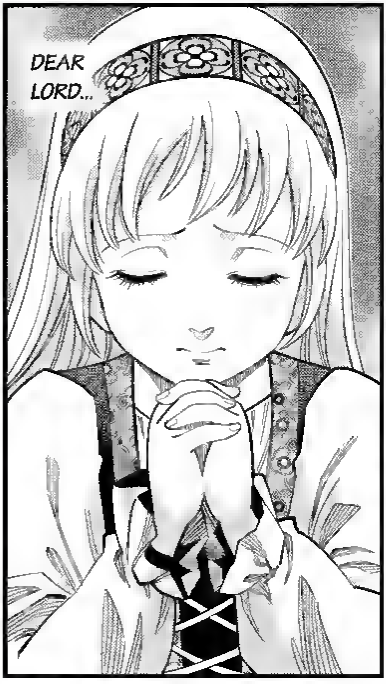
AAAH
YOU'VE CUT OFF THE FEATHERS!?
CAPTAIN, I'M PULLING IT OUT!
GO... AHEAD...
GOT IT!
AS SOON AS THE ARROW'S OUT, STAUNCH THE WOUND! PRESS AS HARD AS YOU CAN!

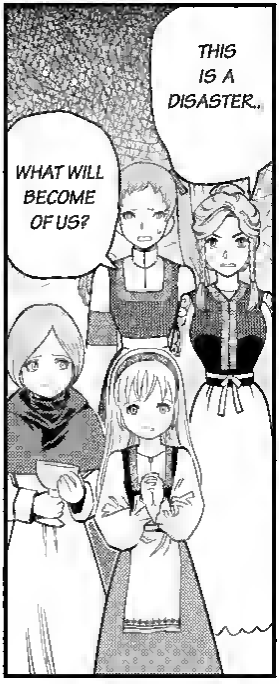
YOU NEVER GIVE UP, DO YOU?
UNGH!
PREPARE TO DIE!
I CARE NOT FOR YOUR NAME, STOOGE OF ROME!
I AM JISKRA, A FLASH OF LIGHT-NING!
AND YOU DISAPPOINT ME, VLASTA, RIGHT ARM OF THE ONE-EYED!
NOW!
THREE, TWO, ONE...

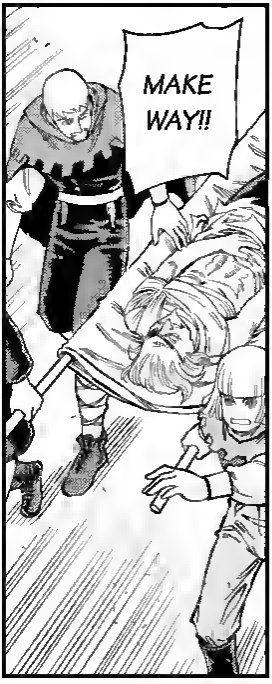
AARGH
!
GAH!

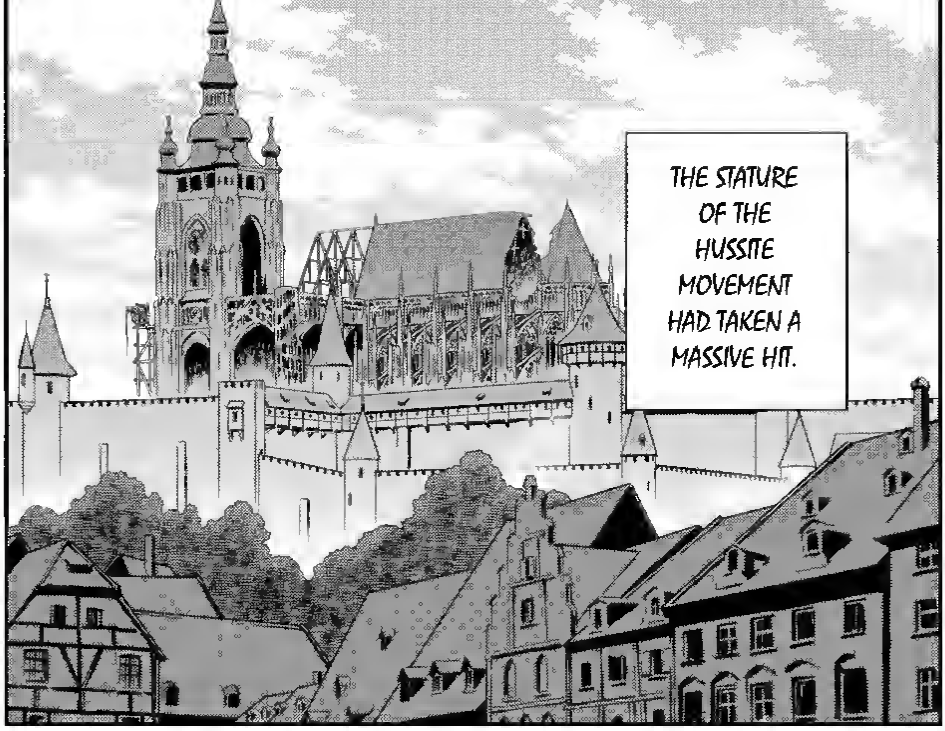

HUH!?

HE PLANNED HIS ESCAPE, RIGHT FROM THE START..
I'VE BEEN PLAYED FOR A FOOL!


DEAR LORD..

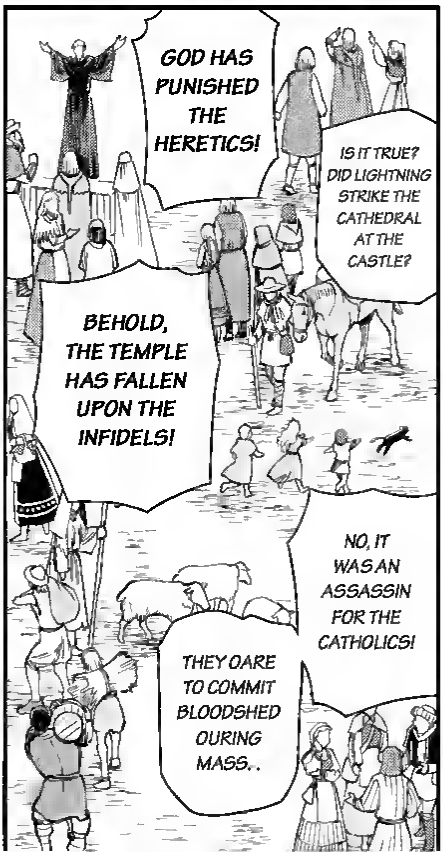

THIS IS A DISASTER..
WHAT WILL BECOME OF US?

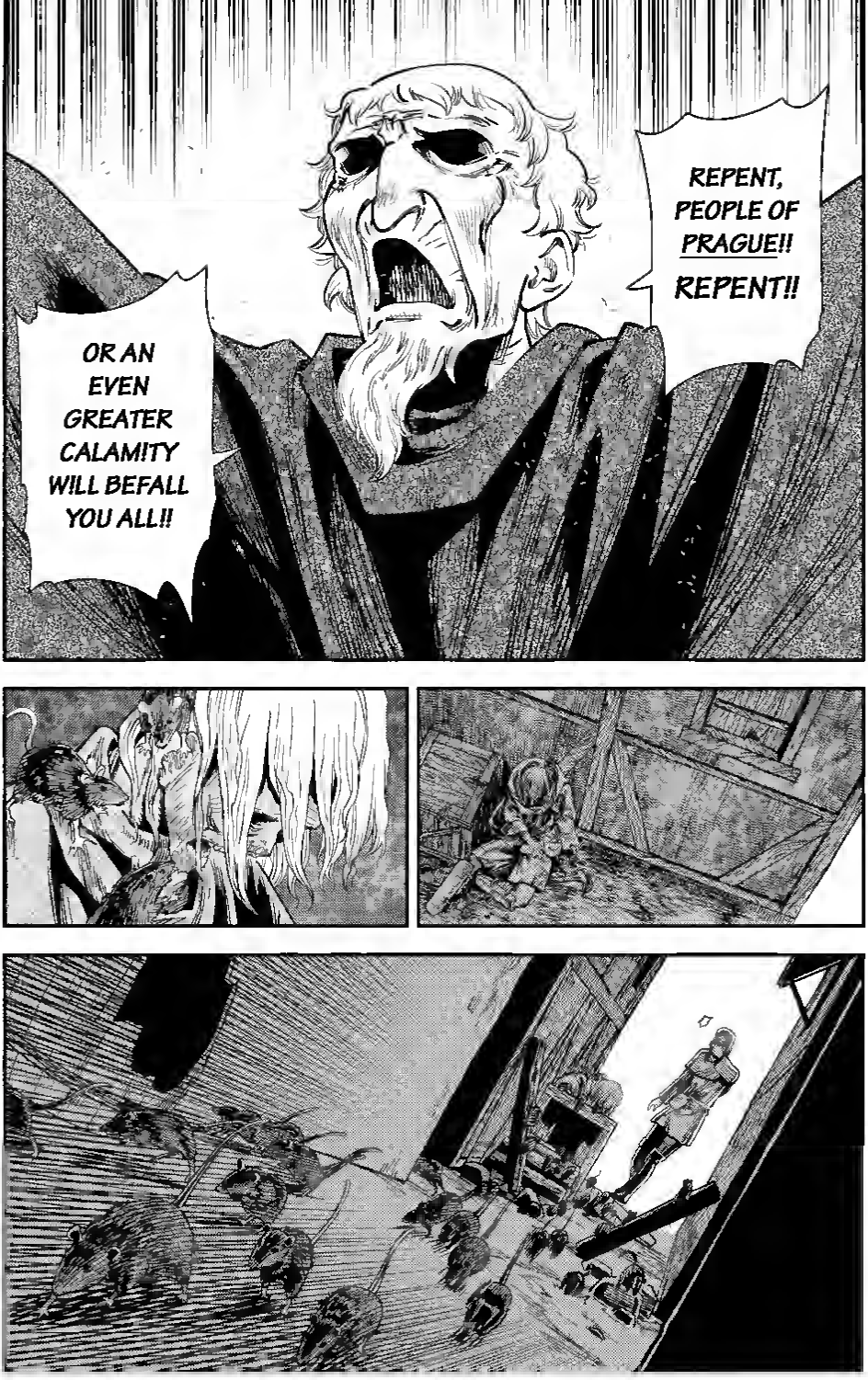

MAKE WAY!!


THE STATURE OF THE HUSSITE MOVEMENT HAD TAKEN A MASSIVE HIT.

MAYBE THIS FINALLY IS DIVINE RETRIBUTION.

IF ŽIŽKA IS GONE, THE HUSSITES ARE DONE FOR..
IN ANY CASE, THE MOVEMENT HAS TAKEN AN UGLY TURN LATELY..
DESTROYING MONASTERIES, PERSECUTING GERMAN SUBJECTS..
DESPICABLE!


GOD HAS PUNISHED THE HERETICS!
IS IT TRUE? DID LIGHTNING STRIKE THE CATHEDRAL AT THE CASTLE?
BEHOLD, THE TEMPLE HAS FALLEN UPON THE INFIDELS!
NO, IT WAS AN ASSASSIN FOR THE CATHOLICS!
THEY OARE TO COMMIT BLOODSHED OURING MASS..


REPENT, PEOPLE OF PRAGUE!!
REPENT!!
OR AN EVEN GREATER CALAMITY WILL BEFALL YOU ALL!!

THE PLAGUE!?

I GUESS THAT SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISING, CONSIDERING THE CROWD AT TODAY'S MASS...
AND PEOPLE ARE FLEEING PRAGUE IN LARGE NUMBERS...
MANY DEATHS HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THE "NEW TOWN"...
APPARENTLY, AN EPIDEMIC HAS BEEN DECLARED...

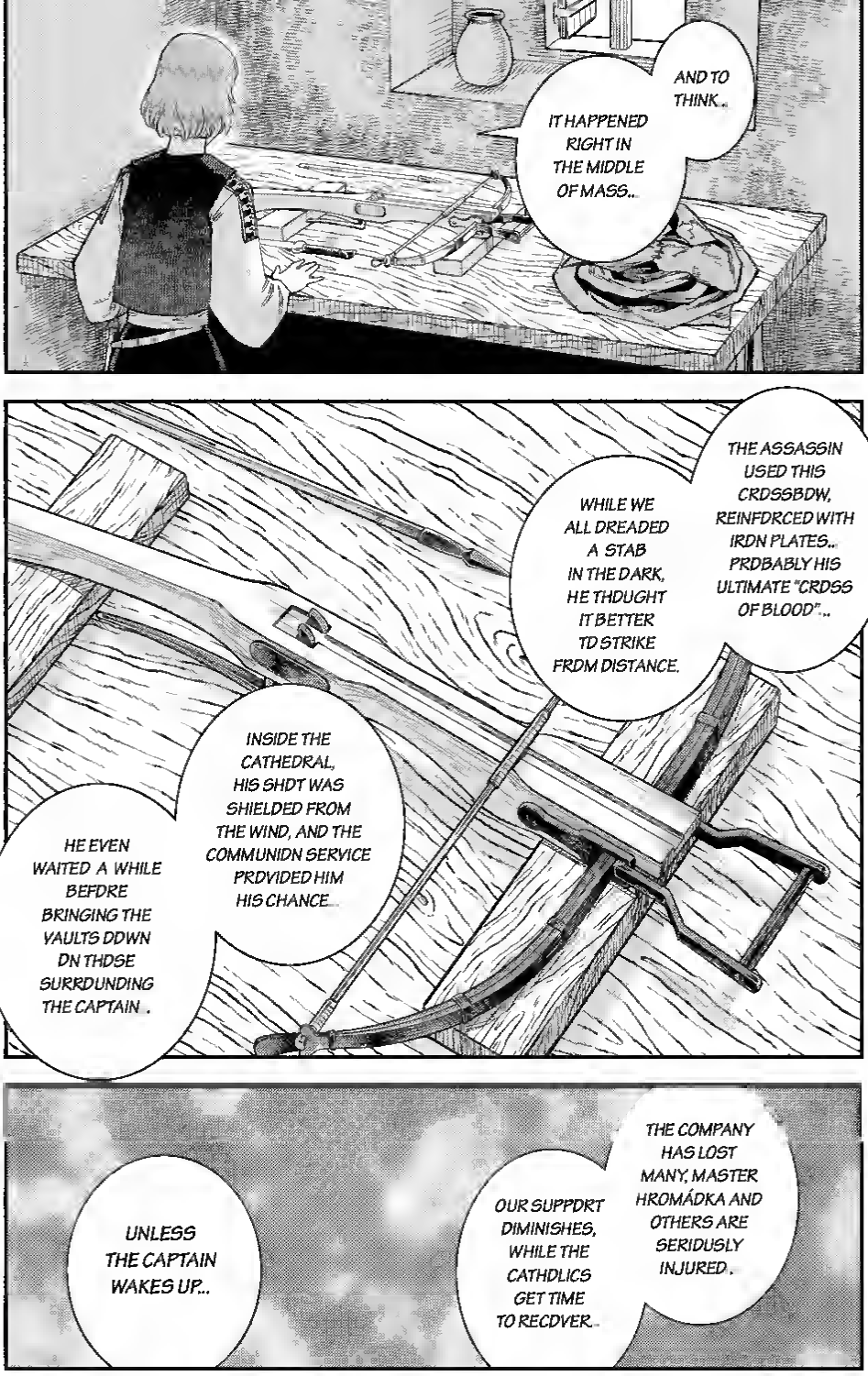
QUIT JOKING AROUND, WILL YOU?
ACK!
NO, FRANTIŠKA, I AM NOT!

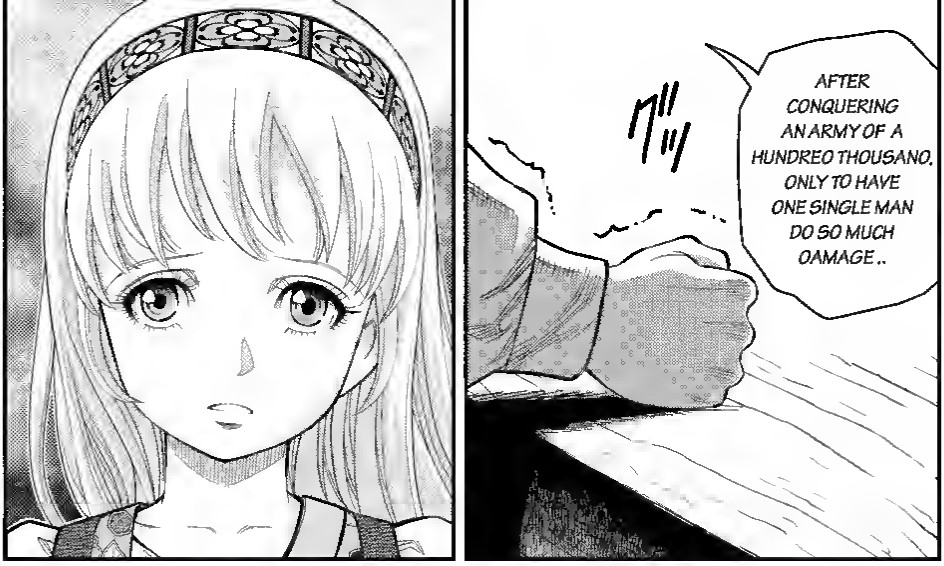
ARE YOU SAYING WE MIGHT BE CURSED?
THIS IS FRIGHTFUL! WHY DOES IT HAVE TO HAPPEN WHEN WE'RE HERE?

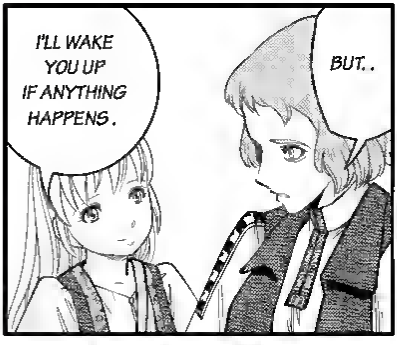
ANO I'LL BE THE BEST SINGER IN THE "ANGELS' CHOIR"!
ME NEITHER!
WELL, I'M NOT GIVING UP!
ME TOO, IF IT'S NOT TOO INCON-VENIENT...
EVEN THE NEW CHOIR RECRUITS HAVE OWINOLEO IN NUMBER..
ALMOST ALL WHO SIGNEO UP FOR THE TABORITE ARMY HAVE DESERTED...
MANY SEEM TO THINK WE ARE, IN ANY CASE...
KNOCK
KNOCK
SPEAKING OF WHICH, ANY UPOATE?
YOU KNOW EVERYTHING'S BEING KEPT SECRET!
SO WE CAN'T EVEN VISIT HIM, THEN?
IF ONE'S TRUE STRENGTH IS REALIZEO, THE BOOY IS BUT A TEMPORARY GARB.
AREN'T YOU AFRAID, ZDENKA?
YOU'RE ALL WORRIED ABOUT A SMALL OUTBREAK? PATHETIC!
UHH, RIGHT, IF YOU SAY SO..
BUT THE CAPTAIN CAN'T LEAVE NOW, CAN HE?
WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER FOR US TO LEAVE PRAGUE TOO?

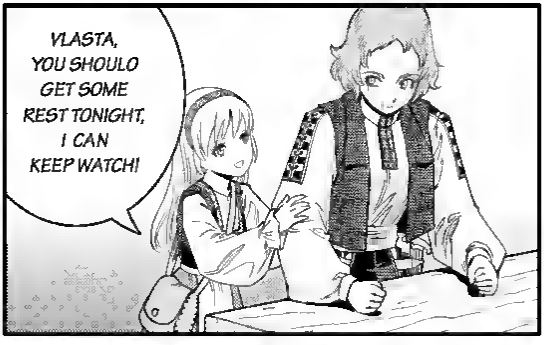
HELLO, I'VE COME TO SEE HOW CAPTA. .
AHHH!
UHH...
SORRY I CAN'T LET MY GUARD DOWN..
THE ENEMY WILL BE ALL TOO KEEN TO DELIVER THE FINAL BLOW..
OH, ŠÁRKA, IT'S YOU .. OIDN'T MEAN TO STARTLE. YOU'RE BY YOURSELF?
YES, THE REST OF THE CHOIR WANTEO TO COME, BUT..
I'M HERE ON THEIR BEHALF. FATHER PROKOP BROUGHT ME HERE
HOW'S HE DOING?

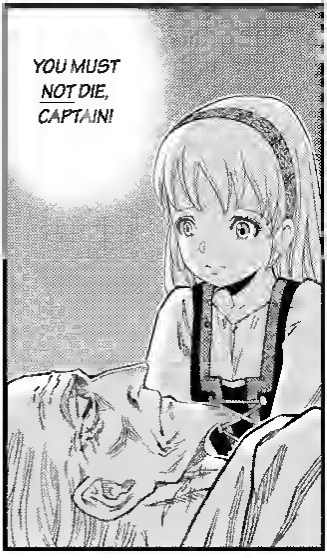
HE'S BEEN IN A COMA FOR A WEEK NOW...
AT HIS AGE, WHO KNOWS IF HE'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE IT...
HE HAD A NARROW ESCAPE, BUT THE WOUND IS DEEP...

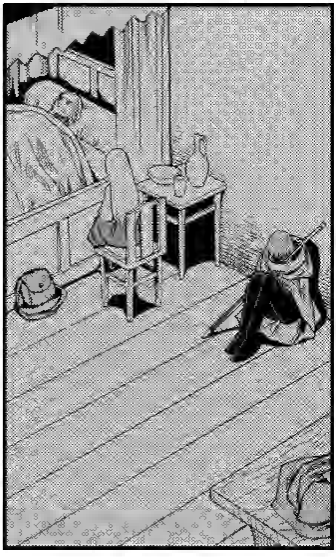

AND TO THINK...
IT HAPPENED RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF MASS...
THE ASSASSIN USED THIS CRDSSBDW, REINFDRCED WITH IRDN PLATES... PRDBABLY HIS ULTIMATE "CRDSS OF BLOOD"...
WHILE WE ALL DREADED A STAB IN THE DARK, HE THDUGHT IT BETTER TD STRIKE FRDM DISTANCE.
INSIDE THE CATHEDRAL, HIS SHDT WAS SHIELDED FROM THE WIND, AND THE COMMUNIDN SERVICE PRDVIDED HIM HIS CHANCE...
HE EVEN WAITED A WHILE BEFDRE BRINGING THE VAULTS DDWN DN THDSE SURRDUNDING THE CAPTAIN.
THE COMPANY HAS LOST MANY, MASTER HROMÁDKA AND OTHERS ARE SERIDUSLY INJURED.
OUR SUPPDRT DIMINISHES, WHILE THE CATHDLICS GET TIME TO RECDVER...
UNLESS THE CAPTAIN WAKES UP...


AFTER CONQUERING AN ARMY OF A HUNDREO THOUSANO, ONLY TO HAVE ONE SINGLE MAN DO SO MUCH OAMAGE..


I'LL WAKE YOU UP IF ANYTHING HAPPENS.
BUT..

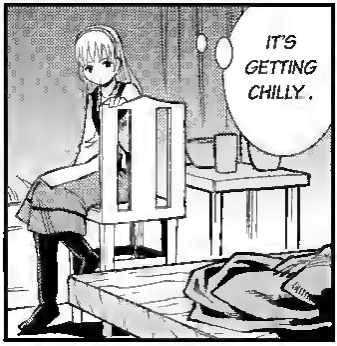

VLASTA, YOU SHOULO GET SOME REST TONIGHT, I CAN KEEP WATCH!


YOU MUST NOT DIE, CAPTAIN!

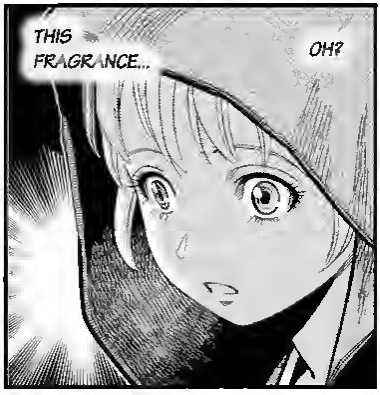


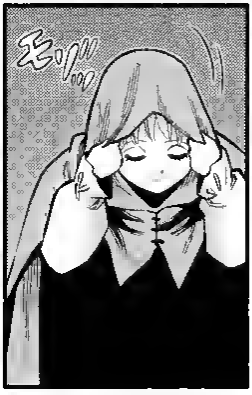
VLASTA AND THE OTHERS WOULD BE LOST WITHOUT YOU...
AND YOU STILL HAVE THINGS TO DO, RIGHT?
GET WELL SOON!

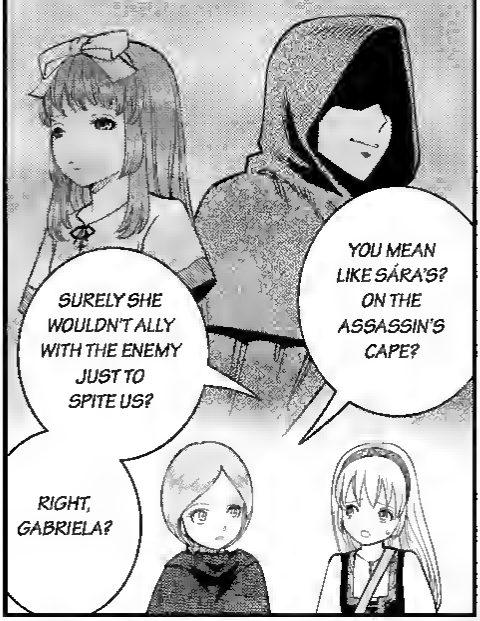
YOU CANNOT BE SERIOUS, ŠÁRKA!

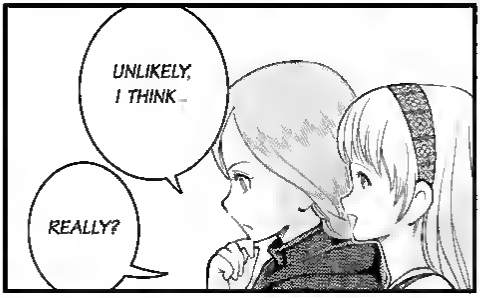

IT'S GETTING CHILLY.

BRRR!


THIS FRAGRANCE...
OH?

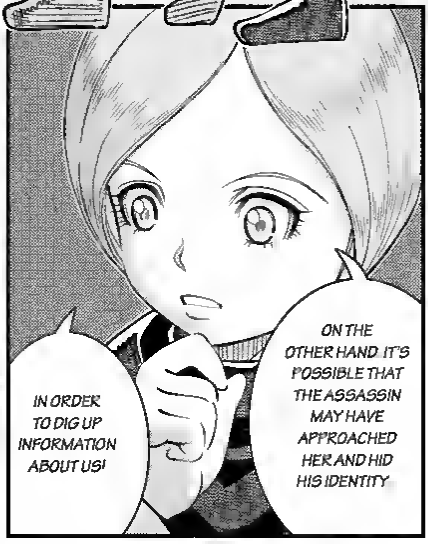

EH?!!

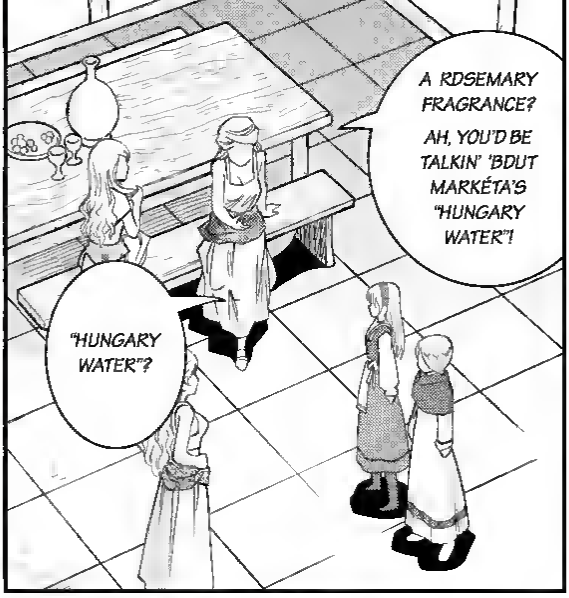

SURELY SHE WOULDN'T ALLY WITH THE ENEMY JUST TO SPITE US?
YOU MEAN LIKE SÁRA'S? ON THE ASSASSIN'S CAPE?
RIGHT, GABRIELA?

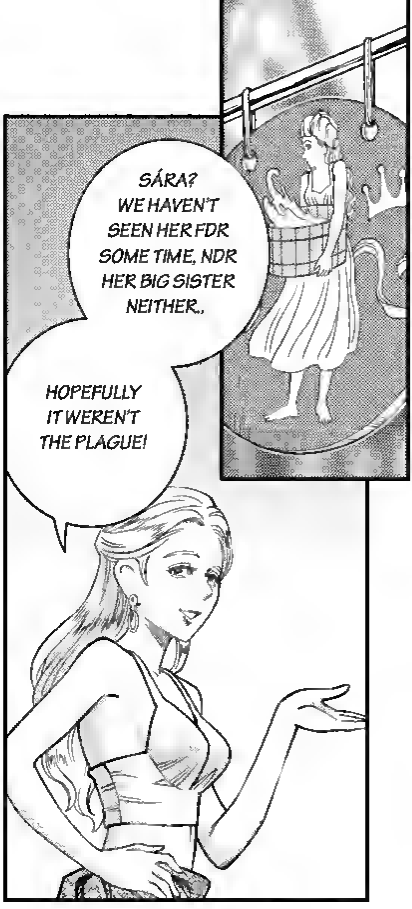

UNLIKELY, I THINK...
REALLY?

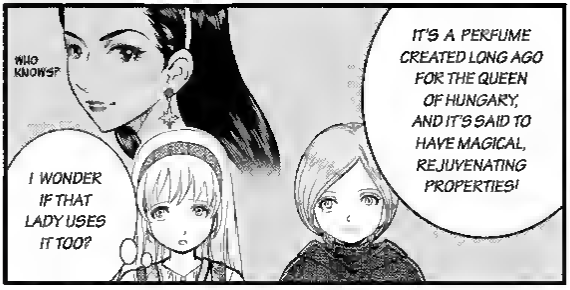
QUICKLY, WE MUST FIND HER!
BUT IF SÁRA UNKNOWINGLY MET UP WITH A KILLER, SHE MAY BE IN DANGER...
RIGHT!

IT'S TRUE, IT WAS A PERFUME SCENT, AND IT SMELLED OF ROSEMARY!

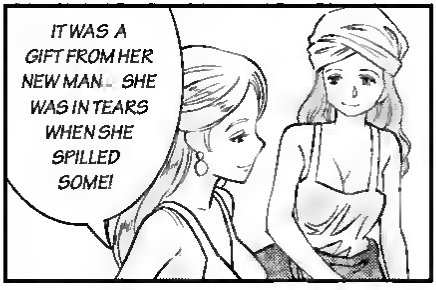

IN ORDER TO DIG UP INFORMATION ABOUT US!
ON THE OTHER HAND IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THE ASSASSIN MAY HAVE APPROACHED HER AND HID HIS IDENTITY.

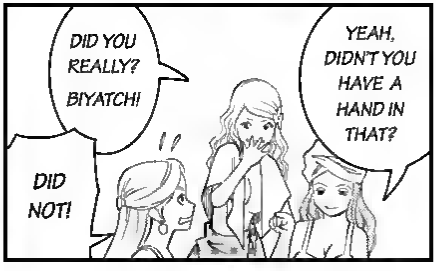

A RDSEMARY FRAGRANCE?
AH, YOU'D BE TALKIN' 'BDUT MARKÉTA'S "HUNGARY WATER"!
"HUNGARY WATER"?


SÁRA? WE HAVEN'T SEEN HER FDR SOME TIME, NDR HER BIG SISTER NEITHER.,
HOPEFULLY IT WEREN'T THE PLAGUE!

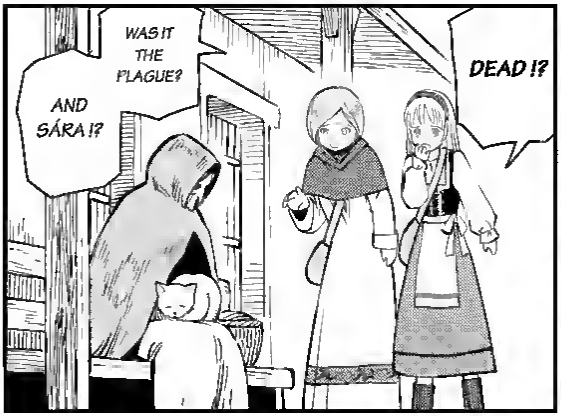

WHO KNOWS?
IT'S A PERFUME CREATED LONG AGO FOR THE QUEEN OF HUNGARY, AND IT'S SAID TO HAVE MAGICAL, REJUVENATING PROPERTIES!
I WONDER IF THAT LADY USES IT TOO?

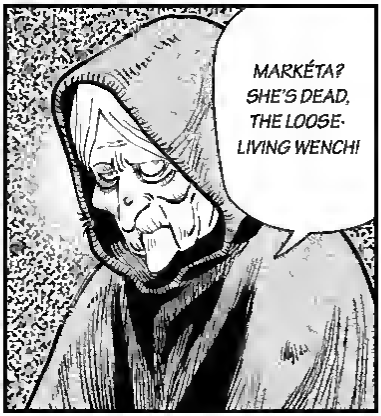
YOU WDULDN'T HAPPEN TO KNOW WHERE THEY LIVE, BY ANY CHANCE?
IF THIS MAN WAS THE ASSASSIN, HE APPRDACHED SÁRA AND MARKÉTA WITH HIS PERFUME?


IT WAS A GIFT FROM HER NEW MAN - SHE WAS IN TEARS WHEN SHE SPILLED SOME!


DID YOU REALLY?
BIYATCH!
YEAH, DIDN'T YOU HAVE A HAND IN THAT?
DID NOT!

WE SHOULDN'T BE LINGERING IN THIS AREA!
AND THAT HOUSE TOO, STRICKEN BY THE PLAGUE?

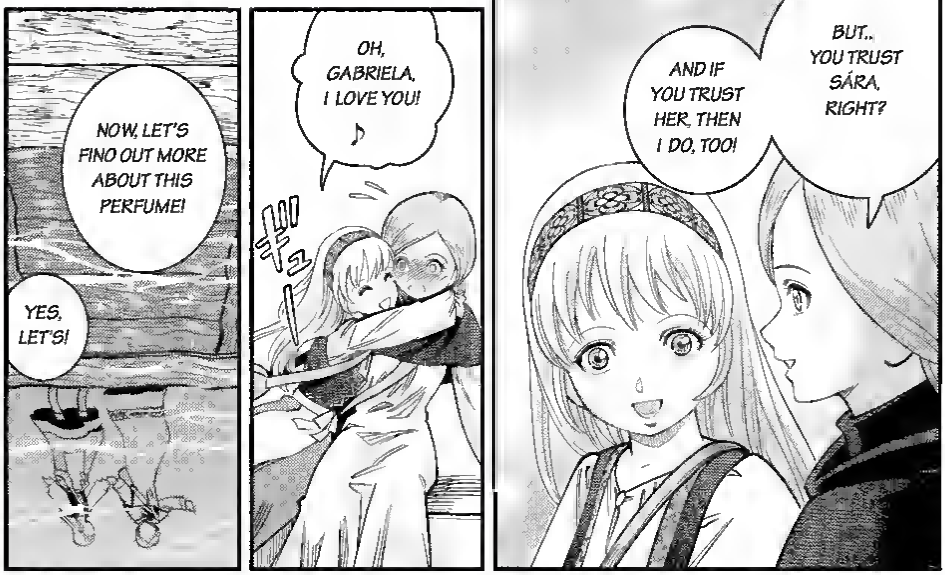

WAS IT THE PLAGUE?
AND SÁRA!?
DEAD!?

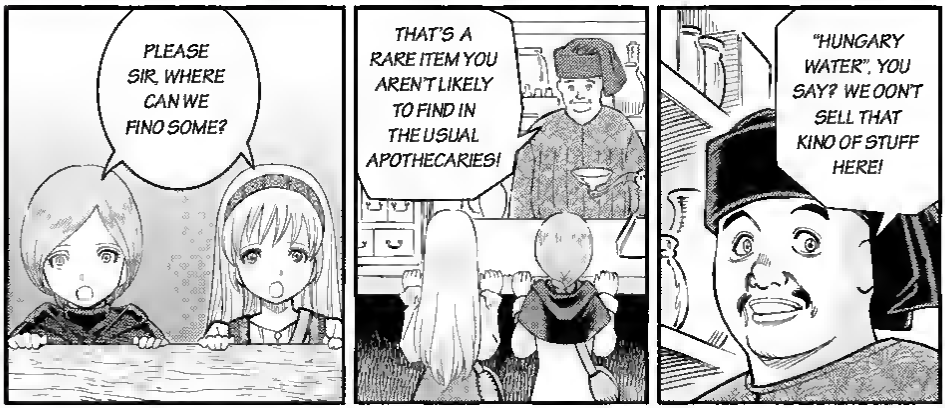

MARKÉTA? SHE'S DEAD, THE LOOSE-LIVING WENCH!

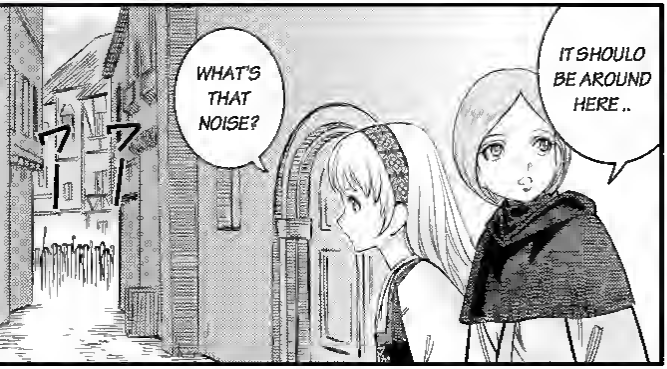
HER THROAT WAS SLICED WIDE OPEN!
...!

YA MEAN THAT GIRL WHO NEVER SMILES?
AH SAW HER SNEAK OUT WITH THAT GOOD-FOR-NOTHING WHO LEECHED OFF HER SISTER.
THAT WAS BEFORE SHE WAS FOUND DEAD INSIDE HER HOME!

SHE WOULD NEVER HAVE DONE SOMETHING SO HORRIBLE!
SÁRA'S A SWEET AND GENTLE CHILD!
WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME NONE IF GOO WAS ANGRY WITH THEM!
AH BET THE TWO SISTERS WERE FIGHTIN OVER THE SAME GUY.
THE FOLLOWING DAY, MARKÉTA IS KILLED AND HE LEAVES WITH SÁRA.
HE WAS SEEN LIMPING THE DAY HE SHOT THE CAPTAIN.
FROM THE DESCRIPTION, IT APPEARS THIS MAN IS OUR ASSASSIN JISKRA.
THE FACTS WE DO HAVE ARE NOT IN HER FAVOUR...
EVEN THOUGH THERE'S STILL A LOT WE DON'T KNOW.
YOU DON'T SUSPECT HER, DO YOU?


NOW, LET'S FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS PERFUME!
YES, LET'S!
OH, GABRIELA, I LOVE YOU! ♪
BUT,.. YOU TRUST SÁRA, RIGHT?
AND IF YOU TRUST HER, THEN I DO, TOO!


PLEASE SIR, WHERE CAN WE FIND SOME?
THAT'S A RARE ITEM YOU AREN'T LIKELY TO FIND IN THE USUAL APOTHECARIES!
"HUNGARY WATER", YOU SAY? WE DON'T SELL THAT KIND OF STUFF HERE!


WHAT'S THAT NOISE?
IT SHOULD BE AROUND HERE ..

ドン
ドン
ワァアアア
NO, NO! NOT OUR STORE
オオオオ
THE WRATH OF THE LORD MUST BE APPEASED!
DRIVE THE PLAGUE-BRINGERS OUT OF THE CITY!
WHAT!?
OUR FRIEND HAS DISAPPEARED, AND
WE'RE LOOKING FOR A MAN NAMED "AVIGDOR THE KABBALIST"!
ボオッ
ISN'T THAT FATHER ŽELIVSKÝ?
YOU KIDS SHOULDN'T BE HERE!
HUH!?
YOU!?

ガシャン
ドドドド
EH? WHAT'S GOING ON?
THEY ABDUCT OUR CHILDREN SO THEY CAN PRACTICE THEIR UNHOLY RITUALS! UNFORGIVABLE!
ゴヴァア
YOU ALL HEARD THEM!
オオオオオ
WE'RE IN THE JEWISH QUARTER...
WAIT, I SEE IT NOW
WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING HERE?
ANYWAY, IT'S NOT SAFE HERE! WE MUST GET OUT...
UHH... THEY'RE A HEATHEN PEOPLE WHO FOLLOW THE TENETS OF JUDAISM AND TEND TO BE INVOLVED IN MONEYED PROFESSIONS...
JEWISH... WHAT'S THAT?

SÁRA !!
THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE SAFE!
WE'VE BEEN LOOKING EVERYWHERE FOR YOU!
WHAT LUCK THAT..
YOU'RE JUST IN TIME!
ŠÁRKA, GABRIELA..

I WANTED TO BE YOUR BIG SISTER, BUT IT SEEMS I ONLY SUCCEEDED IN TAKING YOUR MOTHER'S PLACE!
SORRY, THAT'S PROBABLY MY FAULT...
NO, IT'S MAMA...
HE HIT YOU!?
MARKÉTA, YOUR MUM AND MY DAD ARE FIGHTING AGAIN!
MY FATHER CLAIMED TO BE OF MORAVIAN NOBILITY
BUT TO ME, HE WAS JUST A CRUDE, VULGAR MERCENARY
ワアアア
TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, JAN!
AND GOOD RIDDANCE! NOW LET'S GO MAKE OURSELVES A FORTUNE IN ITALY, BOY!

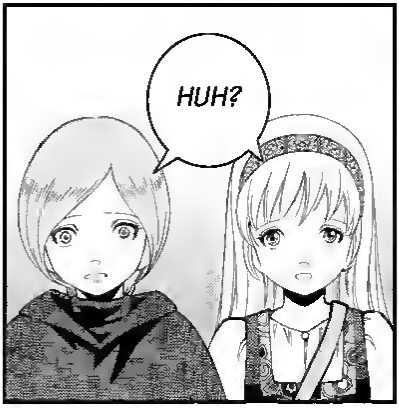
HE MAY PROVE USEFUL...
HE IS YOUNG, BUT HIS AIM IS TRUE, AND HE SPEAKS CZECH!
WITH DAGGER AND CROSSBOW BY MY SIDE KILLING BECAME SECOND NATURE
WHAT A DAMN RELIEF! ♪
IT WAS SO EASY TO MAKE IT LOOK LIKE HE WAS KILLED ON THE BATTLEFIELD.
BESTOW ON JAN ŽIŽKA YOUR "CROSS OF BLOOD"!
SHE DIDN'T RECOGNIZE HER ONCE STEP-BROTHER, AND THAT SUITED ME JUST FINE!
HAVE WE MET BEFORE?
MY, AREN'T YOU A HANDSOME ONE!
HI, MY NAME IS MARKÉTA! THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING ME! ♪
I HADN'T SET FOOT IN PRAGUE FOR TEN YEARS...
A WOMAN FROM ŽIŽKA'S COMPANY?

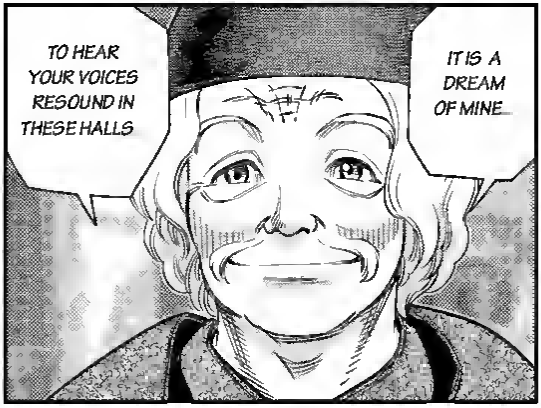
FATHER ŽELIVSKÝ!
THE JEWS HAVE GATHERED IN THE SYNAGOGUE!
AND WITNESSES HAVE REPORTED SEEING THEM KIDNAPPING CHILDREN!
WHAT!?
ワァァ
EEEK!
LET GO OF ME!
IS HE THE ASSASSIN?
WHAT'S HE GOING TO DO TO US?
SORRY ABOUT THIS, BUT TIME'S RUNNING SHORT!

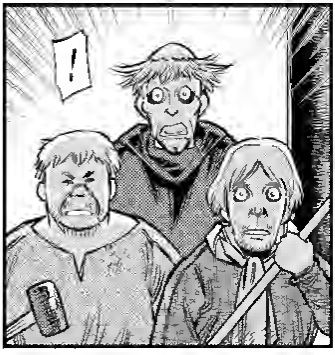
WE'RE IN A SYNA-GOGUE
THE JEWISH PLACE OF WORSHIP
バタン!
QUICK, IN HERE!
SÁRA, EXPLAIN YOURSELF! WHAT HAPPENED TO MARKÉTA AND..
NOT NOW..
WE NEED YOU TO HELP AVERT A DISASTER!
THEY'RE ALL TERRIFIED...
O LORD, SAVE US...
MAMA, I'M SCARED!
NEVER WILL I ALLOW THAT TRAGEDY TO OCCUR AGAIN!
AND I'VE BROUGHT ALONG PRE-CIOUS HELP TO AID US!
RABBI KARA...
RABBI KARA, AT THIS RATE, EVERYTHING WILL HAPPEN JUST AS IT DID THIRTY YEARS AGO .
IS EVERYONE ALL RIGHT?

IT'S THE PERV FROM THE BATHS!
I KNOW! YOU...
HE MAY BE A DIRTY OLD MAN, I GUESS...
BUT HE'S ALSO A HERBALIST WHO KNOWS MEDICINE, AND IS A VALUED MEMBER IN HIS COMMUNITY

PLEASE FORGIVE MY MANNERS DEAR ANGELS!


HUH?

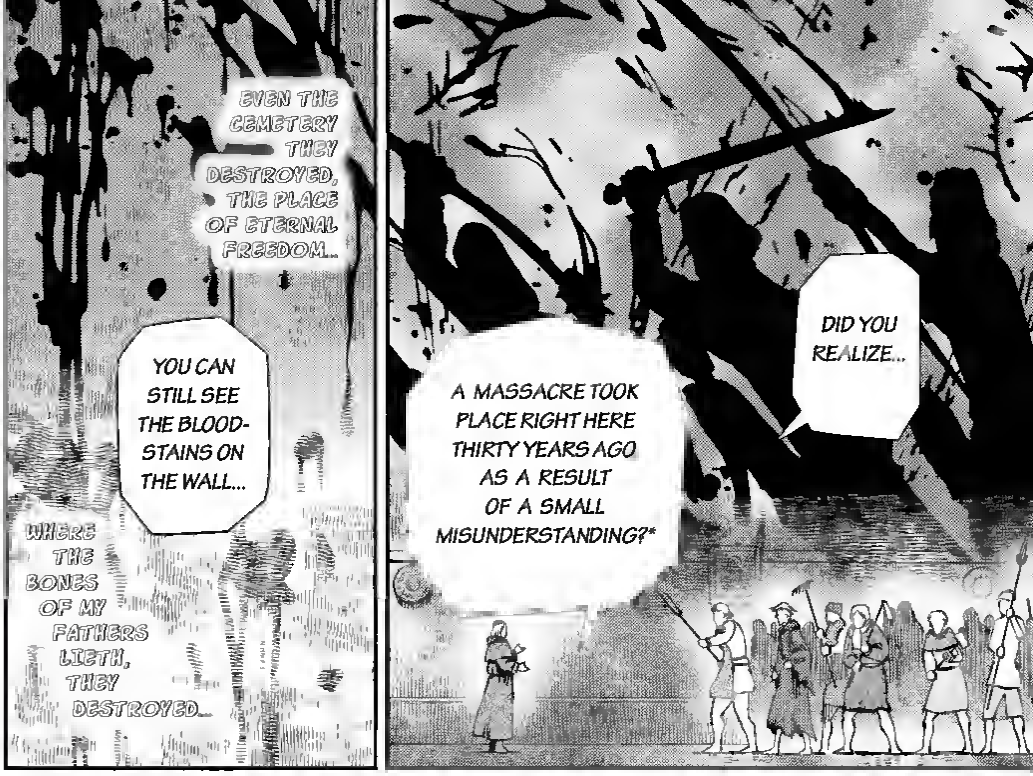

TO HEAR YOUR VOICES RESOUND IN THESE HALLS
IT IS A DREAM OF MINE...


!

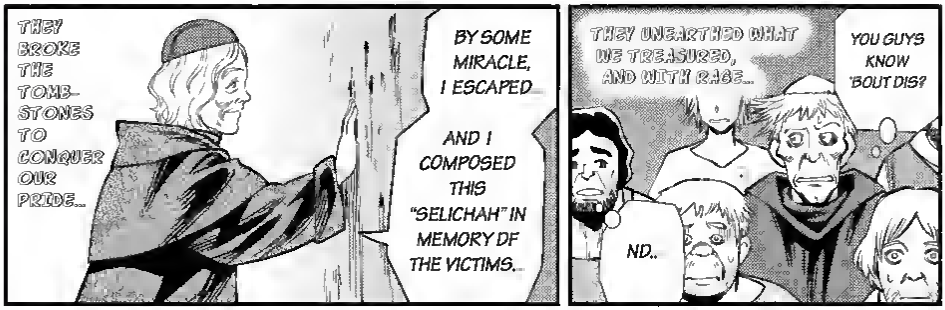
AHH, THE HERETIC TEMPLE!
THE DOOR'S OPEN...

YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN, THE AGED AND BABES...
MANY HATH BEEN SLAIN, NUMBERED BEYOND COUNT...
O YE WHO WILL JUDGE, O YE WHO KNOW ALL...
OF THEM, LORD OF SOULS, I NEED NOT REMIND...
I INVITE YOU ALL TO LISTEN
IT'S A POEM I WROTE
!
A HYMN?
AREN'T THOSE THE "ANGELS' CHOIR" FROM TÁBOR?
WHAT ARE THEY SINGIN'?

HEAR THEIR ECHOES FILL THE TEMPLE...
LISTEN TO THESE HUSSITE ANGELS SING A JEWISH ELEGY...


EVEN THE CEMETERY THEY DESTROYED, THE PLACE OF ETERNAL FREEDOM...
YOU CAN STILL SEE THE BLOOD-STAINS ON THE WALL...
WHERE THE BONES OF MY FATHERS LIETH, THEY DESTROYED...
DID YOU REALIZE...
A MASSACRE TOOK PLACE RIGHT HERE THIRTY YEARS AGO AS A RESULT OF A SMALL MISUNDERSTANDING?*

* IN 1389, A MOB, SPURRED ON BY PRIESTS, STORMED PRAGUE'S JEWISH QUARTER DURING PASSOVER AND KILLED MORE THAN 3,000 PEOPLE

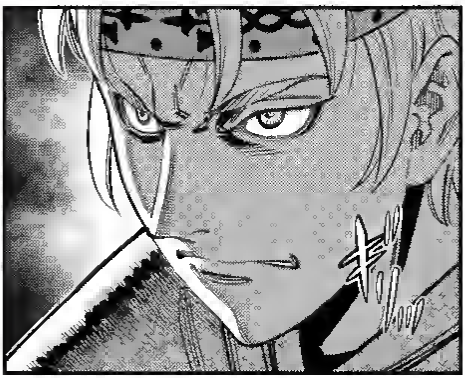

THEY BROKE THE TOMB-STONES TO CONQUER OUR PRIDE...
BY SOME MIRACLE, I ESCAPED...
AND I COMPOSED THIS "SELICHAH" IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS...
THEY UNEARTHED WHAT WE TREASURED, AND WITH RAGE...
YOU GUYS KNOW 'BOUT DIS?
ND..

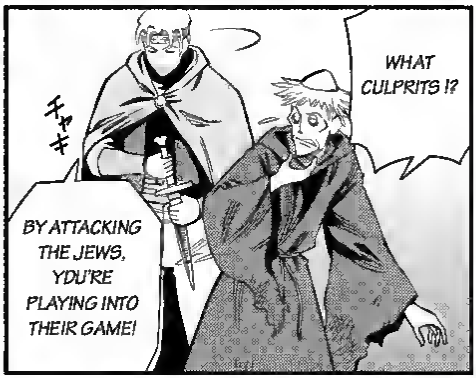
WE HAVE NO REASON TO FIGHT .
EVEN IF OUR BELIEFS AND OUR THOUGHTS DIFFER, WE BOTH AGREED..
I WAS FRIENDS WITH JAN HUS, AND THIS WAS SOMETHING WE OFTEN TALKED ABOUT..
WE LIVED IN PEACE WITH CHRISTIANS .

HAS THE TIME NOT COME YET?
HOW LONG, O LORD...
BUT I BELIEVE A DAY WILL COME WHEN WE CAN ACHIEVE TRUE RECONCILIATION.
MISUNDER-STANDING CONTINUES TO DIVIDE US STILL...
ENOUGH TALK! YOU HERETICS HAVE NO VOICE IN THIS...
BUT THAT'S ANOTHER MISUNDER-STANDING...
YOU'RE THE ONES RESPONSIBLE FOR ABDUCTING OUR CHILDREN AND SPREADING THE PLAGUE HERE!
RECON-CILIA-TION!?
WHAT'S NEXT!?
ゴワーッ!!
FATHER ŽELIVSKÝ?
HUH?

DIDN'T THE SONG MOVE YOU IN THE LEAST? YOUR HEAD TRULY IS AS HARD AS YOUR HEART!
G-G...
GULP
SO YOU'RE REFUSING TO DIALOGUE? IN THAT CASE, LET ME PUT IT TO YOU ANOTHER WAY...
!?
FATHER ŽELIVSKY!
WHERE DID HE...
JISKRA? THE ASSASSIN!?
JISKRA, STOP!
W-WHAT DO YOU WANNA TALK ABOUT!?
YOU LISTEN TO WHAT I HAVE TO SAY, AND I DON'T SLICE YOU EAR TO EAR.
TELL YOU WHAT.
ASSASSIN!?

THE REAL CULPRITS LIE ELSE-WHERE!
AND ND, THE HUSSITES AREN'T CURSED EITHER..
THE JEWS HAVE NDTHING TO DD WITH THIS EPIDEMIC.




WHAT CULPRITS!?
チャキ
BY ATTACKING THE JEWS, YDU'RE PLAYING INTO THEIR GAME!

I WAS CHARGED WITH THE ASSASSINATION OF JAN ŽIŽKA BY CARDINAL BRANDA..
WITH ALL MY COLLABORATORS IN PLACE, I DEVISED A PLAN TO KILL HIM AT ST VITUS CATHEDRAL..
AND BURY HIM UNDER A FLURRY OF STDNES BY BLOWING UP THE ROOF..

EVERY-
THING
WENT AS
PLANNED.
OKAT
LEAST,
THAT'S
WHAT I
THOUGHT.
C'MON IN,
JISKRA!
...
ギュッ

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS? I COMPLETED MY MISSION!
YOU?
JAN...
IF ONLY I CAN GET TO HIM, I CAN SAVE THEM...
BUT HOW CAN I, WITH MY LEG LIKE THIS?
WHY DIDN'T YOU USE THE POISON I GAVE YOU?
FROM WHAT MY DAUGHTER TELLS ME, JAN ŽIŽKA SURVIVED THE ATTACK!
THE ENEMY WAS ON HIGH ALERT 'COS YOU KEPT LEAKING OUT INFORMATION!
POISON'S FOR AMATEURS!

THE GIRLS WON'T LAST MUCH LONGER!
ONLY THIS ANTIDOTE CAN SAVE THEM...
DON'T BOTHER TRYIN' ANYTHING, THEY'VE ALREADY TAKEN THE POISON..
GRRR
SO IF YOU WANT THEM TO LIVE, JUST SHUT UP AND DROP YOUR WEAPON!
FINE, NOW GIVE THEM THE ANTIDOTE!
A DRINK FOR YOU TOO! AND SINCE YOU COMPLIED SO NICELY, I WILL LET THEM LIVE!

TO UNLEASH THE "BLACK DEATH" UPON THE HERETICS!
NOW LISTEN TO ME, BOY... YOUR "CROSS OF BLOOD" WAS ONLY A DIVERSION!
THE REAL MISSION WAS ENTRUSTED TO US BY THE CHURCH...
THE "BLACK DEATH"? YOU WOULDN'T DARE...
I'D RATHER DIE THAN STOOP SO LOW!
BUT TALENTS LIKE YOURS ARE PRECIOUS INDEED...
JOIN ME, AND I WILL SPARE YOU!
I'VE BEEN ORDERED TO ELIMINATE YOU ONCE YOUR TASK WAS DONE...

I COULD'VE SHORTENED YOUR SUFFERING..
BUT GIVEN YOUR GALLANTRY, I'LL GIVE YOU TIME TO SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR BELOVED!
FOOL!
BB
HH
HH
...!
WHEN I TOLD HER I KNEW YOU, SHE OFFERED ME A DISCOUNT, HA HA HA HA HA!
NICE GIRL, THIS ONE!

HEH HEH HEH! I HOPE HE SAVOURS HIS AGONY!
I'M SO SORRY TO DRAG YOU INTO THIS. LEAVE PRAGUE AS SOON AS...
BAH, NO POINT REGRETTING NOW! BESIDES, THE MOST IMPORTANT THING...
DAMMIT, WHY DID I LET MYSELF GET CARRIED AWAY?
MARKÉTA! SÁRA! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

THE ANTIDOTE! YOU DIDN'T...

GULP!

!?

COU GH! COU GH!
MARKÉTA!
THAT YOU WOULD RISK YOUR LIFE FOR US...
HEH HEH, I GUESSED I WAS MOVED...
YOU RECOG-NIZED ME?
OH, NO... NOT YOU TOO...
SÁRA... JAN...
FORGIVE ME... I HAVEN'T BEEN... A BIG SISTER... WORTHY...
MARKÉTA, HOLD ON!
MARKÉTA!
COU GH!
COU GH!

MARKÉTA !!
MARKÉTA !!!
AAAAAH
...
MY GOD
BUT I COULDN'T RISK GOING TO THE HUSSITES, SO I FLED TO THE GHETTO WITH SÁRA'S HELP...
I SWORE THAT I WOULD AVENGE MARKÉTA...

THE PLAGUE, THE "BLACK DEATH"?
THE MAN WITH THE POISON, IS HE BEHIND ALL THIS?
JISKRA IN PARTICULAR WAS GRAVELY POISONED, AND HE STILL NEEDS TREATMENT!
WHEN THEY GOT HERE, THEY WERE BOTH IN A CRITICAL STATE...
THE EPIDEMIC WAS CAUSED BY THE "KNIGHTS OF THE CROSS WITH THE RED STAR"!
THE KNIGHTS OF..?

THEY ARE A CHIVALRIC ORDER, FORMED RIGHT HERE IN BOHEMIA...
THE KNIGHTS ARE BOTH A MILITARY ORGANIZATION WITH TIES TO THE CHURCH, AS WELL AS A MEDICAL INSTITUTION IN CHARGE OF SEVERAL HOSPITALS...
THE PRAGUE DIRECTOR OF HOSPICES IS A MAN NAMED GUSTAV.
IT SEEMS HE HAS ALSO CARRIED OUT CLANDESTINE RESEARCHES ON THE USE OF POISONS AND EPIDEMICS AS WEAPONS

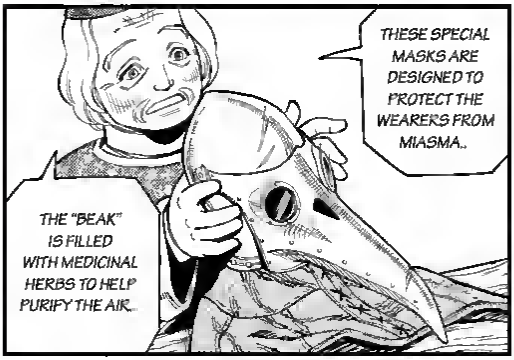
BUT THESE PEOPLE, THEY'RE READY TO WIPE OUT THE WHOLE CITY..
A WELL-TARGETED KILLING REQUIRES FEWER USELESS SACRIFICES THAN A WAR!
BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I FEEL A CERTAIN PRIDE IN MY LINE OF WORK.

HE'S USING THE PLAGUE AS A WEAPON!?

WE WILL AID YOU IN STOPPING THEM!
THIS ORDER PARTICIPATED IN THE MASSACRE OF THIRTY YEARS AGO..
THIS EPIDEMIC MUST BE THE WORK OF THE SURVIVING MEMBERS!
BUT WE'VE ALREADY DESTROYED THEIR HEAD-QUARTERS..
THANK YOU, DEAR CHILDREN..
WE OWE YOU OUR LIVES!
IT WAS NOTHING..
YOU'VE REALLY OPENED OUR EYES 'ERE!

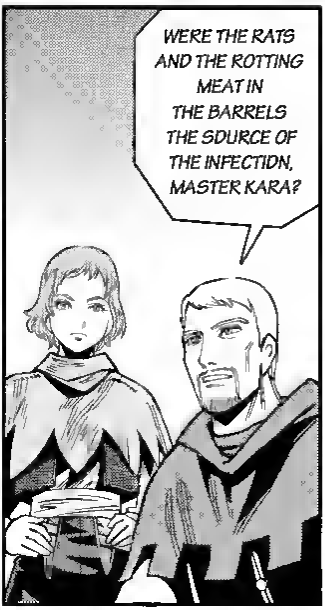
ACCORDING TO THE INFO WE GOT YESTERDAY, ŽIŽKA'S HIDING SOMEWHERE CLOSE!
IF IT SPREADS HERE, THERE'S NO WAY HE CAN RESIST IN HIS CONDITION!
EVERYTHING OKAY?
CURSES, THEY KNOW!
WHAT THE!? IT STINKS!
RATS!?
YOU THE KNIGHTS OF THE CROSS WITH THE RED STAR!?
THE ONES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EPIDEMIC!?

I'M AFRAID WE WEREN'T ABLE TO TAKE THEM ALIVE ,,
THEY PUT UP A STIFF FIGHT..,

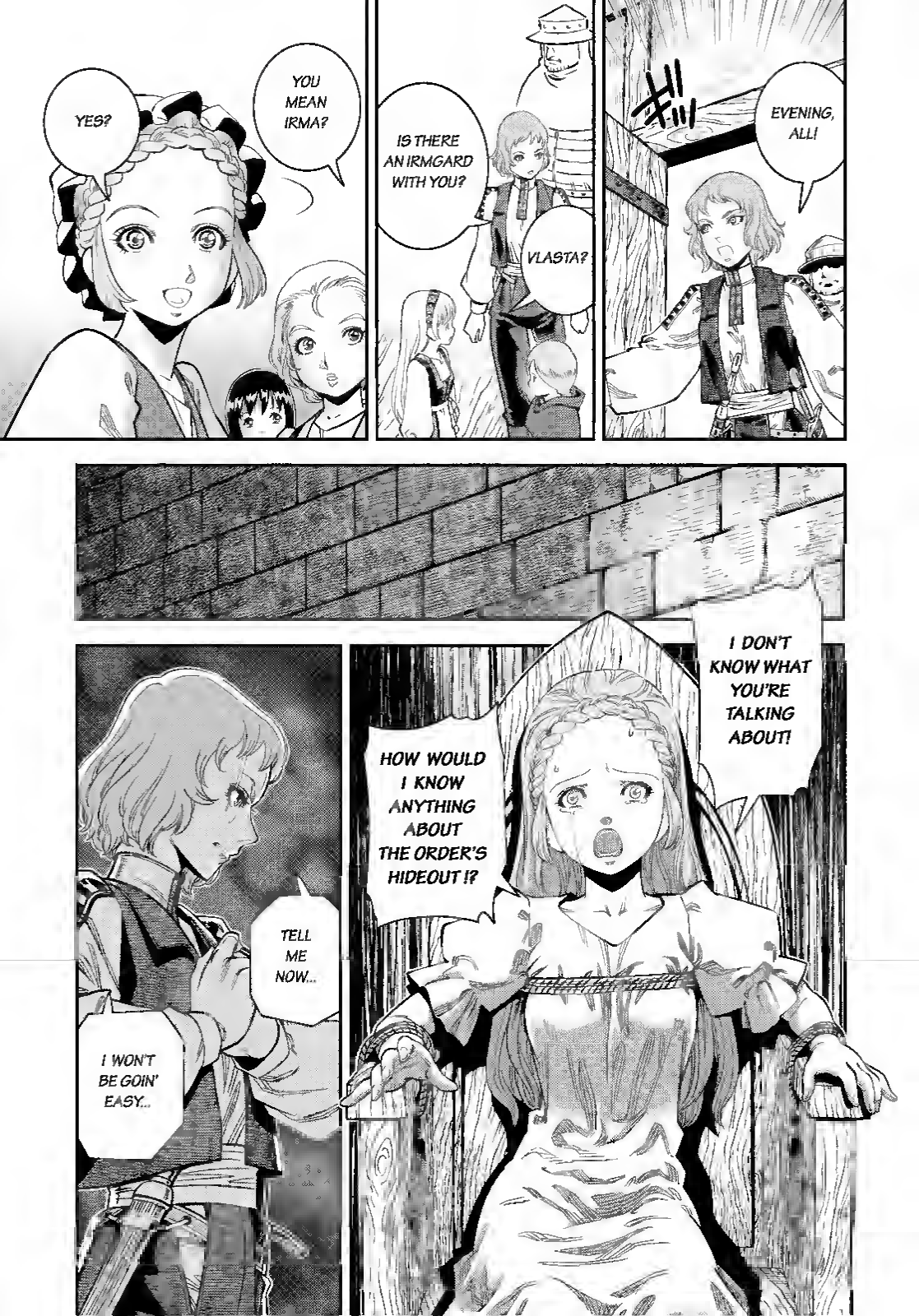

THESE SPECIAL MASKS ARE DESIGNED TO PROTECT THE WEARERS FROM MIASMA..
THE "BEAK" IS FILLED WITH MEDICINAL HERBS TO HELP PURIFY THE AIR..

THE "BLACK DEATH" TAKE ALL YDU UNBELIEVERS!

BUT IT'S BELIEVED THE RATS SPREAD THE EVIL BY EATING THE FLESH OF THE DEAD VICTIMS
WE KNOW NEITHER THE EXACT CAUSE FOR THE PLAGUE, NOR THE REMEDY, ,
IF THIS GUSTAV HAS BEEN GATHERING UP BODIES IN SECRET, WHERE CAN HE BE STDRING THEM?


WERE THE RATS AND THE ROTTING MEAT IN THE BARRELS THE SDURCE OF THE INFECTIDN, MASTER KARA?

ŠÁRKAI GABRIELA!
I HAVE JUST BEEN INFORMED..
THE NAME OF GUSTAV'S DAUGHTER!
HOW DID THEY DISCOVER OUR SAFE-HOUSE?
WE MUST CLOSE OFF THE QUARTER AND MOVE THE CAPTAIN!
THERE'S A FULL BLOWN EPIDEMIC, Y'KNOW!
WHAT POSSESSED YOU KNUCKLE-HEADS TO GO OUT ALL ALONE !?
SORRY, MADAME HROMÁDKA!!
THEY MUST PAY FOR THEIR CRIMES!
THE ORDER OF THE CROSS WITH THE RED STAR, HUH?
NOT ONLY DO WE HAVE NEW ALLIES, WE ALSO KNOW THE ENEMY'S IDENTITY, THANKS TO YOU!
WELL DONE, GIRLS!


YES?
YOU MEAN IRMA?
IS THERE AN IRMGARD WITH YOU?
VLASTA?
EVENING, ALL!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT!
HOW WOULD I KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THE ORDER'S HIDEOUT!?
TELL ME NOW...
I WON'T BE GOIN' EASY...

ゴキッ!!
CRACK!
AND IRMA WANTED TO ACCOMPANY YOU, REMEMBER!?
LOOK, IF THE ENEMY FOUND OUT THE CAPTAIN'S LOCATION, THAT MEANS YOU WERE BEING FOLLOWED!
WHAT, AGAIN!?
PLEASE, PLEASE DON'T HURT IRMA!
AAAH...
MY MOTHER RAISED ME BY HERSELF.
NO... STOP!
I NEVER KNEW MY FATHER...
PROVE? INNIT FASTER TO QUESTION HER RIGHT AWAY!?
THAT DOESN'T PROVE SHE'S A SPY!

IRMA!
IRMA...
STOP!!
AAAH!
AARGH!!
GET SOMEONE TO TEND TO HER...
LET'S TAKE A BREAK...
I'LL GO!
IRMA, HOLD ON!
I'VE DONE IN HER FINGERS, AND SHE S SAID NOTHING
SHE COULD BE INNO-CENT
AND HER NAME AND AGE MATCH THE DES-CRIPTION
BUT SHE IS THE ENEMY LEADER'S DAUGHTER, RIGHT?
NEED ME TO TAKE OVER?
LEANING ON A YOUNG 'UN, IT'S HARD.

LET ME SEE THAT...
OWW!
DON'T WORRY, IT'S JUST A DISLOCATION... THEY'LL HEAL SOON ENOUGH!
ŠÁRKA ?
YOU ALL THINK I BETRAYED YOU?
YOU MUST BELIEVE ME, I. .
ŠÁRKA...
YOU'RE MY FRIEND!
OF COURSE I BELIEVE YOU!

ŠÁRKA!
STOP IT! DON'T HURT HER ANYMORE!
YOU'RE PULLIN' MY LEG, RIGHT!? STEP ASIDE, KID!
EEE...
ガチ
ガチ
JUST TO WARN YOU, I'M NOT AS GENTLE AS VLASTA!
ALRIGHTY, BREAK TIME'S OVER!
TORTURE ME IN HER PLACE!
YOU'LL BE REGRETTIN' YOUR CHOICE IN A BIT!
WHATEVER YOU SAY! YOU MAY HAVE THE CAPTAIN'S GOOD GRACES, BUT YOU AIN'T GETTIN' NO FAVOURS FROM ME!
BUT, IF IRMA SEES HER FRIEND SUFFERING, IT JUST MIGHT...
STILL IN THE WAY, EH

BUT SHE CANNOT REJOIN THE CHOIR, NOT WITH ALL THESE SUSPICIONS ABOUT HER!
IRMA CAN GO FREE
WELL, LET'S GO THEN!
SO, WE GET TO FIGHT NOW!?
ČAPEK, THE JEWS LOCATED THEIR HIDEOUT!
INTERROGATION'S OVER!
WHAT!?
...
GGH..
BBB..
I'M SORRY, IRMA...
WE ATTACK THE ORDER'S HIDEOUT AT DAWN!
THIS TIME ALL OF PRAGUE IS WITH US! THE "OLD TOWN", THE "NEW TOWN", THE JEWISH QUARTER!
THE TIDE HAS TURNED! WE ARE NO LONGER ALONE AGAINST ALL...

JISKRA..!
HII...
COULD YOU MAYBE GIMME BACK MY WEAPONS?
THE GALL!!
HIIフ...!
WHAT!?
WAIT!
HE SHOT THE CAPTAIN!!
BY PIERCING THROUGH GUSTAV'S!
AND JUST HOW DO YOU PLAN TO REDEEM YOUR SKIN!?

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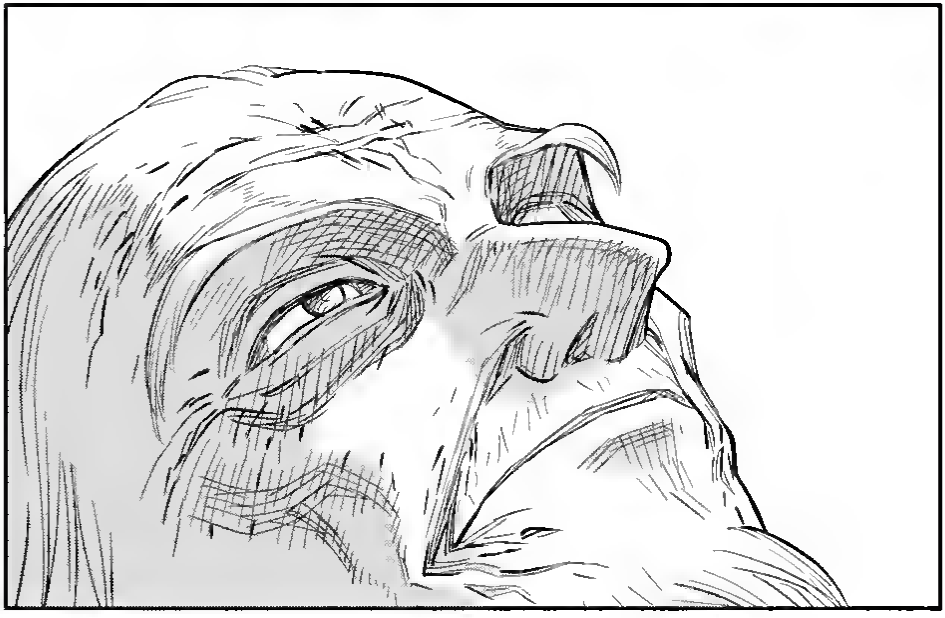
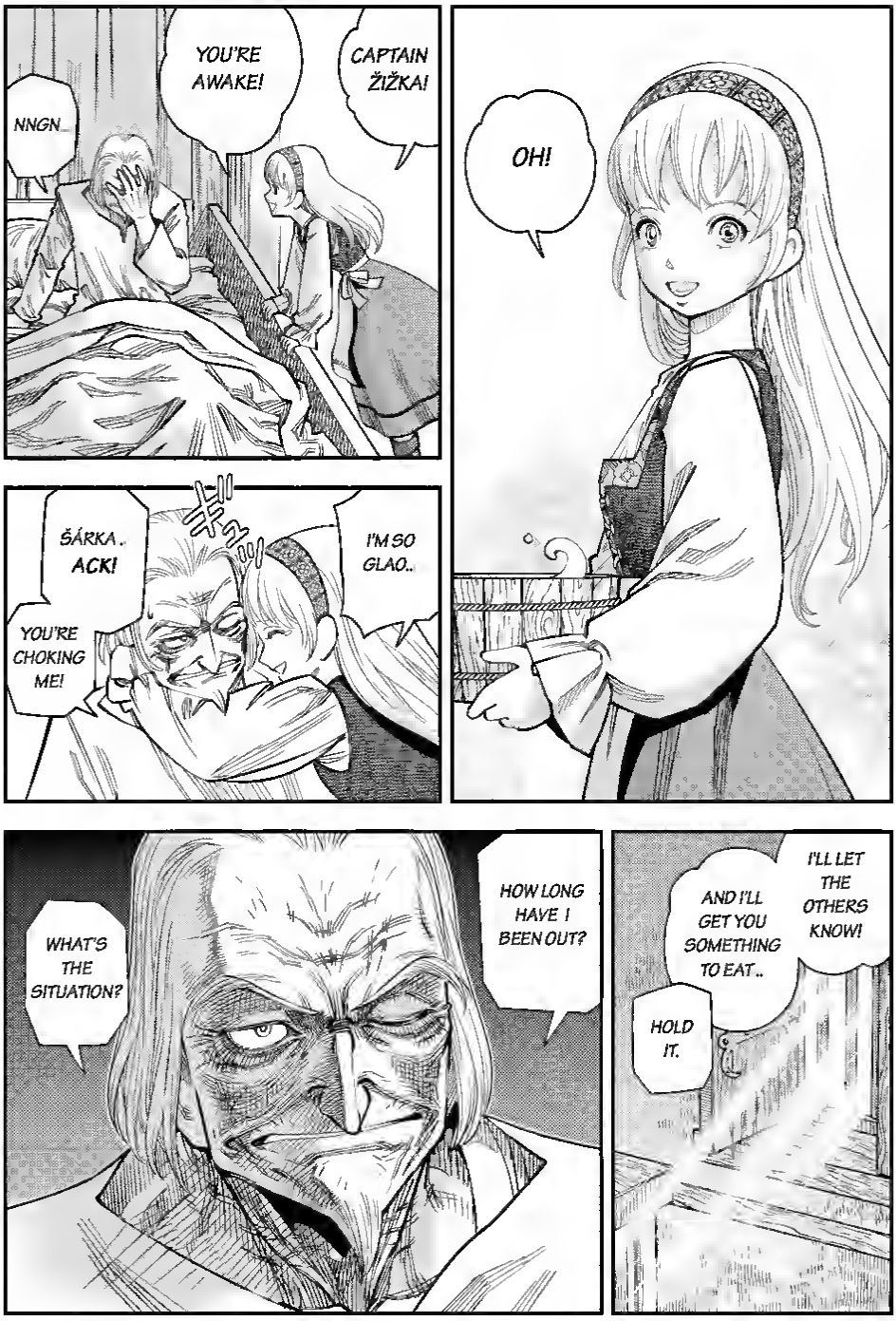
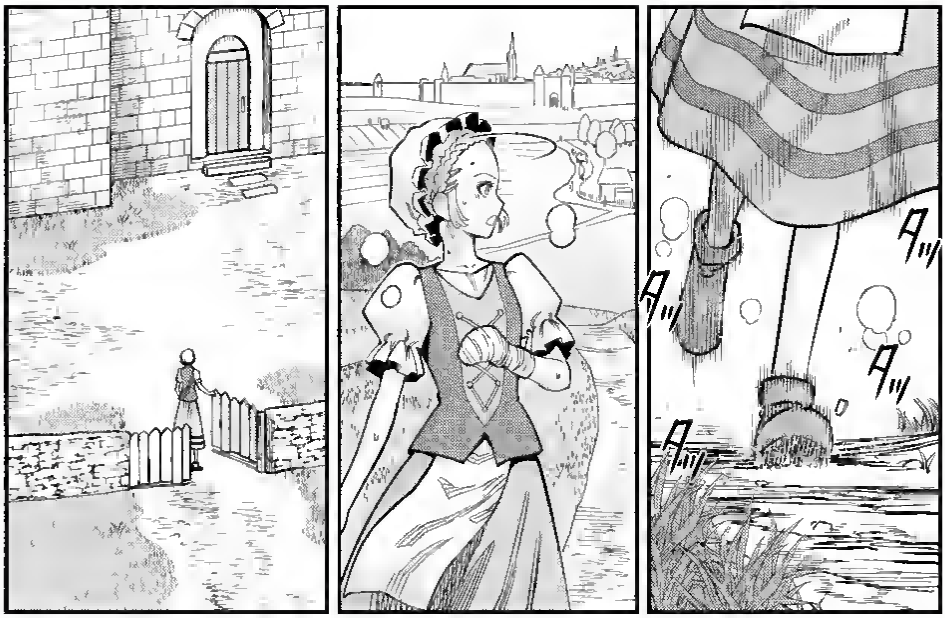


Dívčí Válka


NNGN..
YOU'RE AWAKE!
CAPTAIN ŽIŽKA!
OH!
ŠÁRKA..
ACK!
YOU'RE CHOKING ME!
I'M SO GLAD..
WHAT'S THE SITUATION?
HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN OUT?
HOLD IT.
AND I'LL GET YOU SOMETHING TO EAT..
I'LL LET THE OTHERS KNOW!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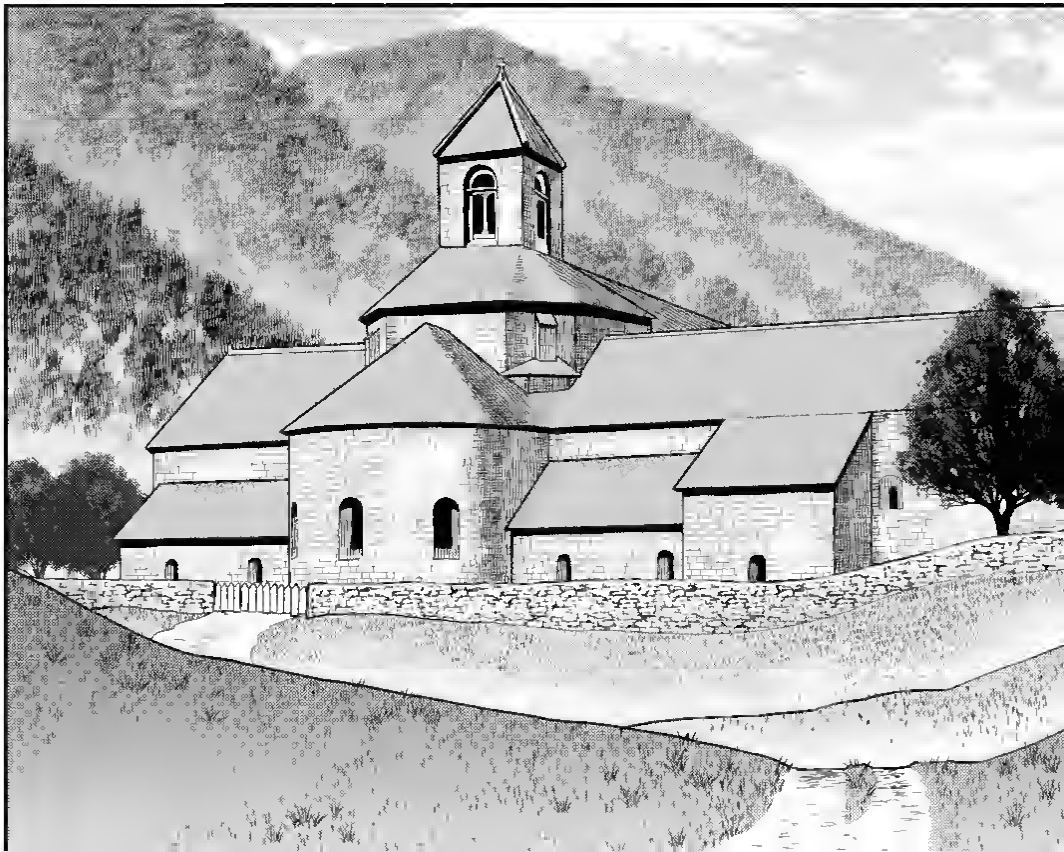


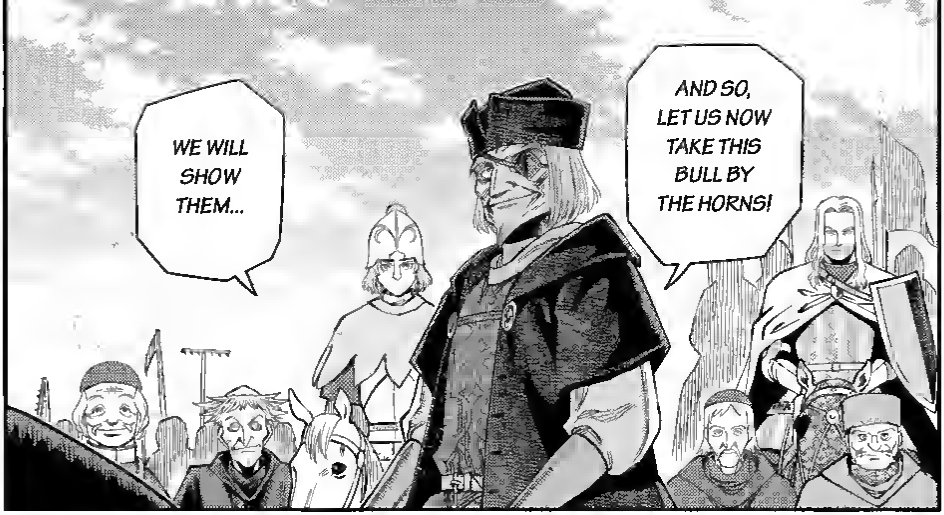
AND THE JEWS AND HUSSITES ARE PREPARING A JOINT ASSAULT AGAINST US...
I SEE... SO JISKRA SURVIVED...
YES, FATHER!
IT MIGHT EVEN TAKE PLACE TODAY!
HUH!?
THEY FOLLDWED YDU ALL THE WAY HERE, AND YOU DIDN'T EVEN NDTICE!
IDIOT!
TAKE YOUR POSITIONS!
NOT EVEN A RAT WILL ESCAPE US!

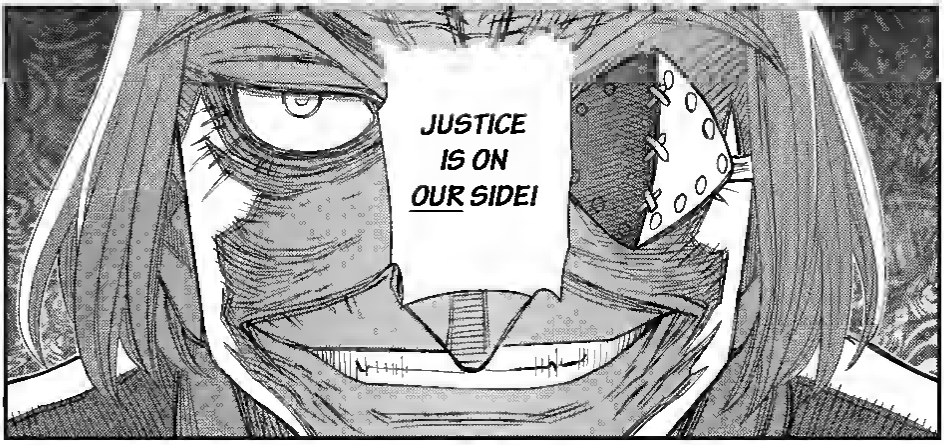
THIS COULD WELL BE WHERE THE EPIDEMIC STARTED.
THIS IS AN OUTBUILDING FOR THE CONVENT OF ST. AGNES, BUT IT BELONGS TO THE KNIGHTS OF THE CROSS WITH THE RED STAR.
AND SHE GOES ON TO CONFIRM WHAT MASTER KARA'S MEN FOUND OUT!
GREAT IDEA TO LET HER GO FREE.
W-WHO ARE YOU?
THEY WOULD HAVE SPOTTED YOU SOONER OR LATER.
PLEASE, THERE'S NO NEED TO REPROACH YOURSELF.
WHAT HAVE I DONE?
OH, NO...

I USED HER AS AN INFORMANT 'COS SHE WANTED TO MAKE HERSELF USEFUL, BUT SHE'S CAUSED ME NOTHING BUT PROBLEMS!
DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME CONSOLING HER, EMISSARY.
MY NAME IS JOHANN HUNYADI, A KNIGHT IN THE SERVICE OF A DAMSEL IN DISTRESS!
UHH...
IN THE END, SHE'S NO BETTER THAN THE DREGS THAT BRED HER!
I...
FORGIVE ME...
CAN THIS BE TRUE?
HEY, LOOK!

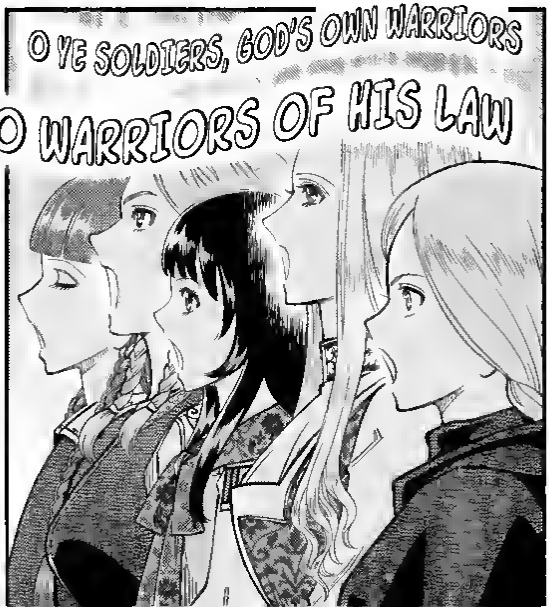
THE CAPTAIN'S BACK FROM THE DEAD!
SIR, NO, SIR!!
EVERYONE BEHAVED THEMSELVES WHILE I WAS GONE?

FOR HIM TO BE DOING NOTHING, HE MUST BE IN SO MUCH PAIN...
ALL RIGHT, CAPTAIN?
AS LONG AS I STAY ON MY SAODLE, YES,..
I'LL JUST HANG BACK FOR TOOAY
WE, THE JEWISH COMMUNITY WILL PROVIOE OUR EXPERTISE AS BEST WE CAN!
THE ORDER'S CRIMES WILL NOT GO UN-PUNISHED!
PRAGUE'S "OLO TOWN" IS WITH YOU, CAPTAIN!
YOU'RE LATE, ŽIŽKA! TRYIN' TO SLEEP IN, EH?
WE MUST NOT BOW BEFORE THE CRUELTIES OF THE CHURCH!
I CON-VINCED THE QUEEN ŽOFIE!
LORD WARTEN-BERG!
WILL YOU ACCEPT THE NOBILITY JOINING THIS ALLIANCE?

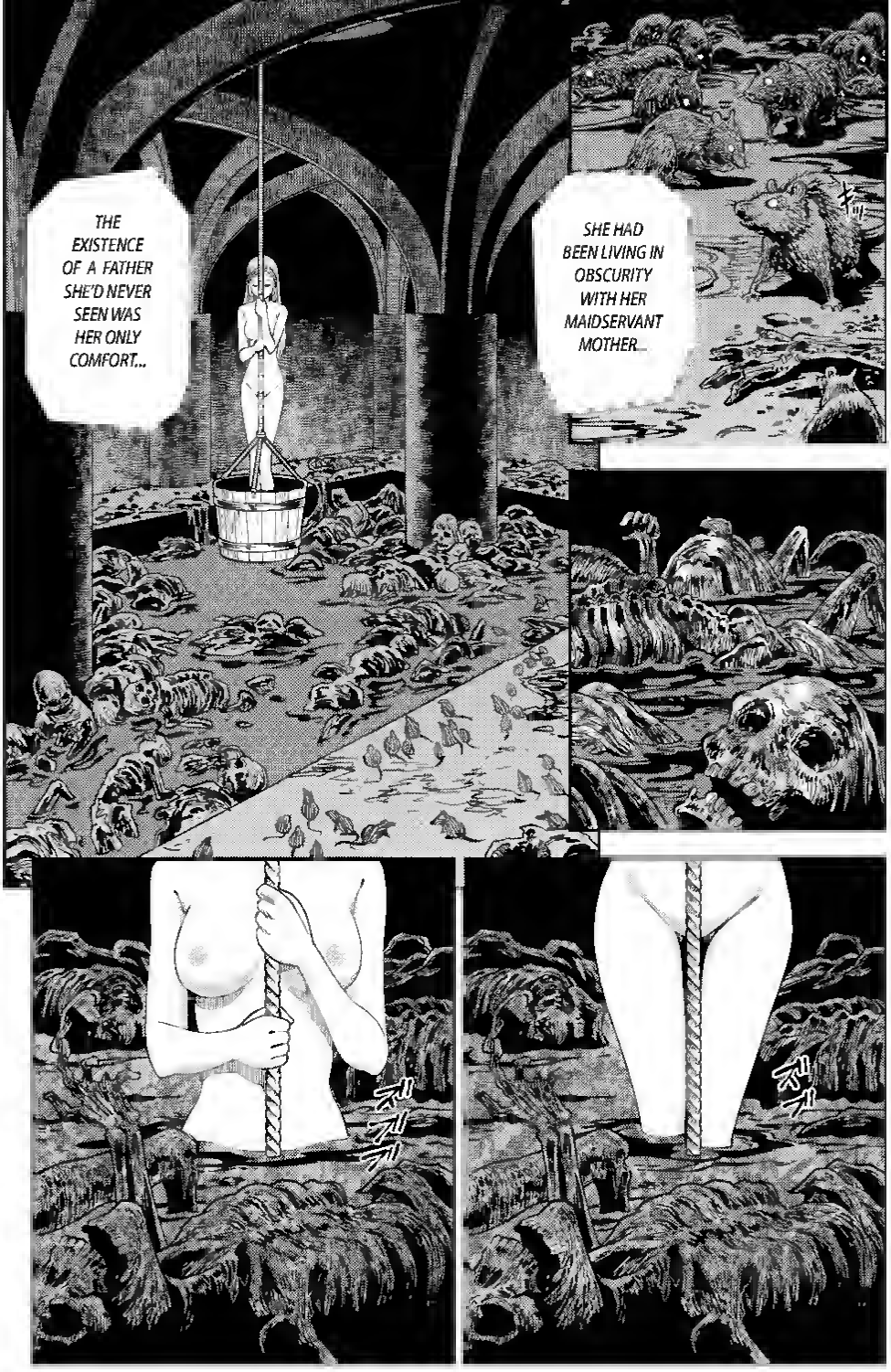

WE WILL SHOW THEM...
AND SO, LET US NOW TAKE THIS BULL BY THE HORNS!


JUSTICE IS ON OUR SIDE!

ドオン!!
COM-MENCE ATTACK!


O YE SOLDIERS, GOD'S OWN WARRIORS
O WARRIORS OF HIS LAW

SIR IT'S DANGEROUS WITHOUT A MASK...
IRMGARD, STOP THIS MADNESS!
ARE YOU SURE?
I HAVE MY FATHER'S BLESSING.
I ENTRUST MY FATHER TO YOU, SIR HUNYADI!
WHY WOULD SHE DO THIS?
POOR CHILD...
SHE RESPECTS HER FATHER DEEPLY...
REVERES HIM EVEN...
IRMGARD!


THE EXISTENCE OF A FATHER SHE'D NEVER SEEN WAS HER ONLY COMFORT...
SHE HAD BEEN LIVING IN OBSCURITY WITH HER MAIDSERVANT MOTHER...
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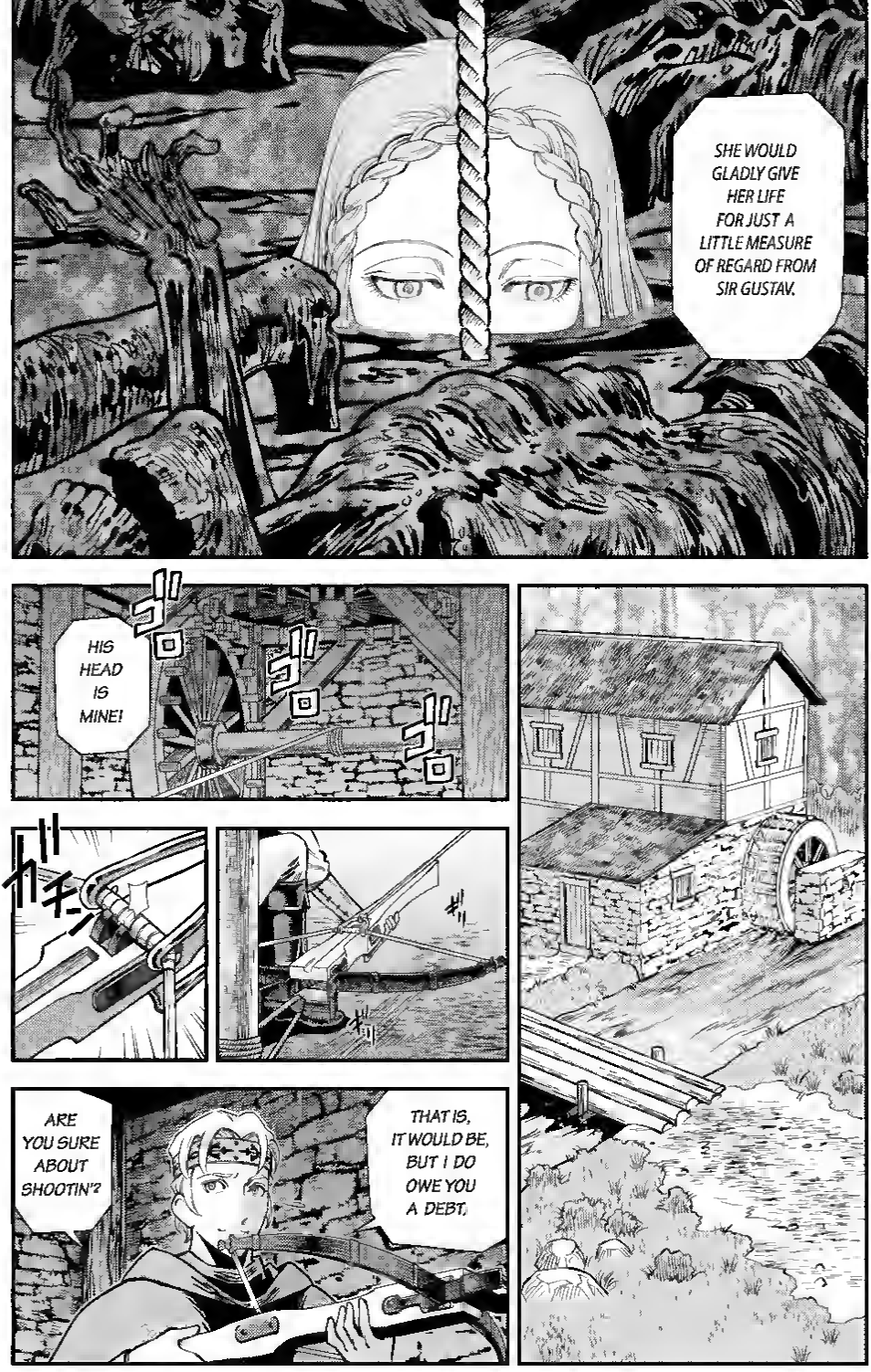
SHE WOULD GLADLY GIVE HER LIFE FOR JUST A LITTLE MEASURE OF REGARD FROM SIR GUSTAV.
HIS HEAD IS MINE!
ゴロ
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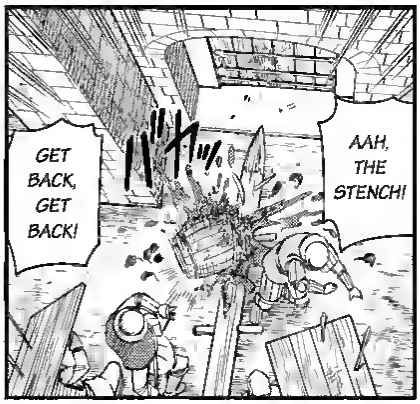
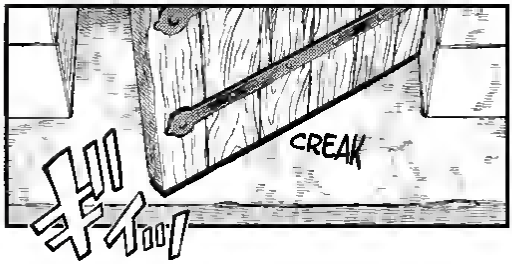
カチン
ARE YOU SURE ABOUT SHOOTIN'?
THAT IS, IT WOULD BE, BUT I DO OWE YOU A DEBT.

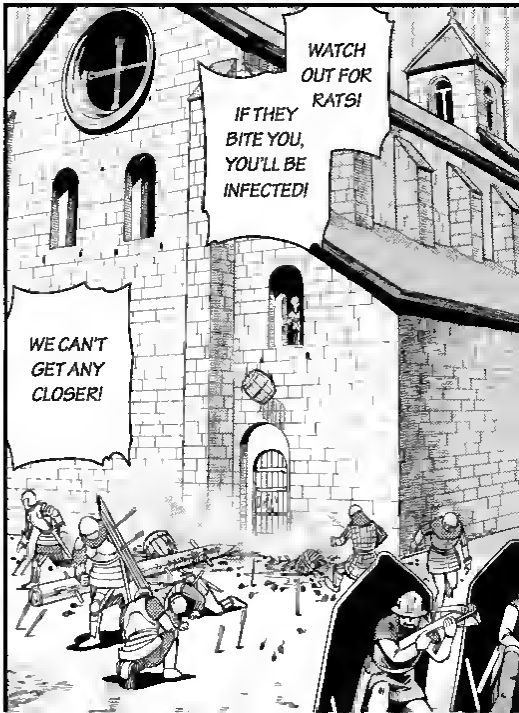
STAND BACK!
I'LL CHUCK ONE OF THESE IN THEIR FACES!


GET BACK, GET BACK!
AAH, THE STENCH!

KATEŘINA TAUGHT ME HOW TO USE IT..

THEY CAN'T EAT OR DRINK IN THOSE SUITS, THEY WON'T HOLD OUT FOR LONG!
WHAT ARE THEY THINKING?


CREAK


WATCH OUT FOR RATS!
IF THEY BITE YOU, YOU'LL BE INFECTED!
WE CAN'T GET ANY CLOSER!

HAHAHAHA! HERE'S IRMA, YOUR "BLACK DEATH" ANGEL!
WHAT... IS THAT!?
IRMA!?
HERE, VERMIN, VERMIN, VERMIN!
GIVE 'EM WHAT YA GOT!
SHE'S COMIN' THIS WAY! SHOOT!
BUT SHE'S A KID!

UGH!
YEOW!
AHA! HAHA
YECCH!

GIDDYUP!
WHOA!
AAH!
AAGH!
EEEK
THE SIEGE IS BREAKING UP!
TIME TO BREAK OUT!
WHAT'S GOIN ON AT THE WEST SIDE?
A MAD-WOMAN!?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
...

ドドドド
AAH
I WON'T ABANDON YOU!
KEEP AWAY! YOU'LL GET INFECTED!
WE NEED MORE TORCHES!
AFTER THEM!
CURSES! THEY'RE ESCAPING!
I SHOULD KNOW... I'M IN CHARGE OF COORDINATING THE CATHOLIC FORCES IN BOHEMIA!
THERE ARE A FEW GAPS WE CAN GET THROUGH!
ISN'T THE VYŠEHRAD BEING BESIEGED BY THE HUSSITES TOO!?

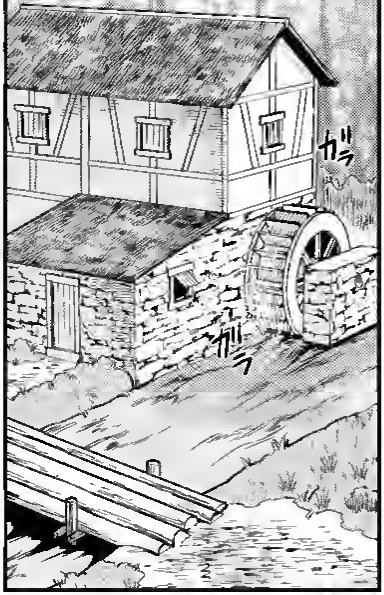
IT'S YOUR MISTAKES THAT GOT US HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE!
AFTER WHAT YOU DID TO YOUR OWN DAUGHTER...
THE EMPEROR ASSIGNED SUCH A CRUCIAL ROLE TO SOME SNOTTY KID?
IT'S EASIER FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME TO MOVE ABOUT!
YOU CAN SEE IT ALL OVER HIS FACE...
IF I GETCHA, YER DEAD!
HAHAHAHA! WATCH OUT!
AII

OH, CAPTAIN ŽIŽKA! YOU'RE AWAKE!
♪
DON'T LET HER GET NEAR THE CAPTAIN! FIRE!
IS THAT IRMA!?

SHE'S STILL GOING!
TAKE COVER, CAPTAIN!
AHA! HA
HA!
CAPTAIN!
MY LEGS... I CAN'T HOLD ON!
OH NO, IF IT GETS TOO REST-LESS...
WHA...

HI, ŠÁRKAAA...
HAHAHA!
IRMA, STOP!

AND SHE WOULD BRING HOME BIRDS AND STRAY CATS...
MARKÉTA NEVER LEARNS, SHE KEEPS FALLING FOR BUMS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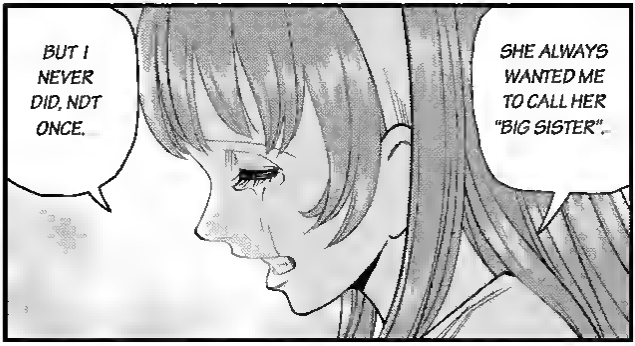
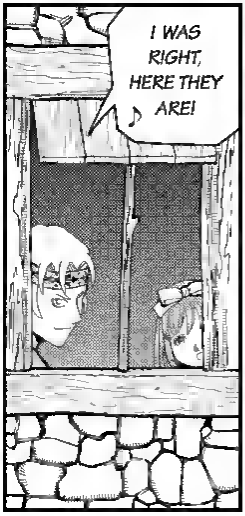

BUT I NEVER DID, NOT ONCE.
SHE ALWAYS WANTED ME TO CALL HER "BIG SISTER".

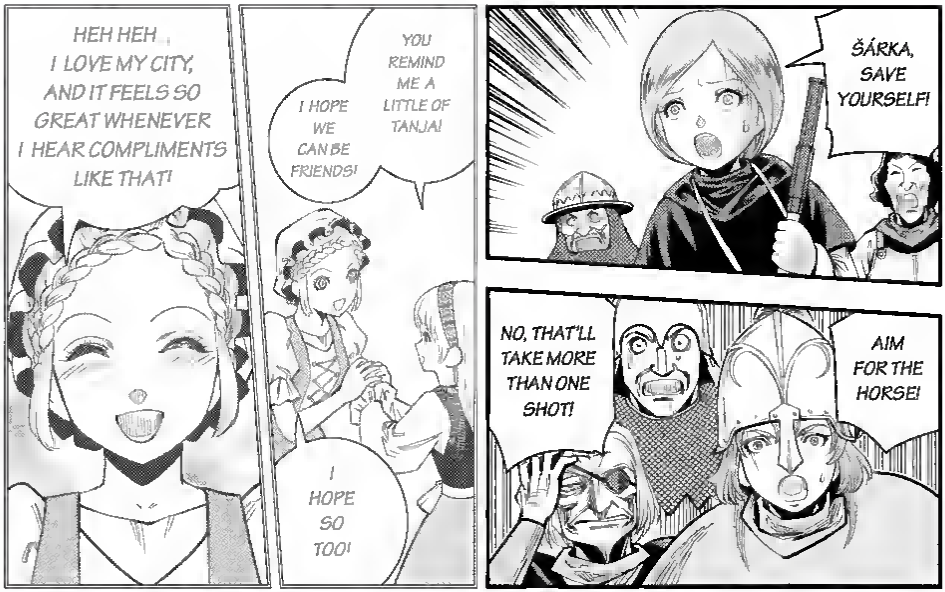
EVEN AS A YOUNGSTER, SHE COULDN'T BEAR TO BE ALONE.

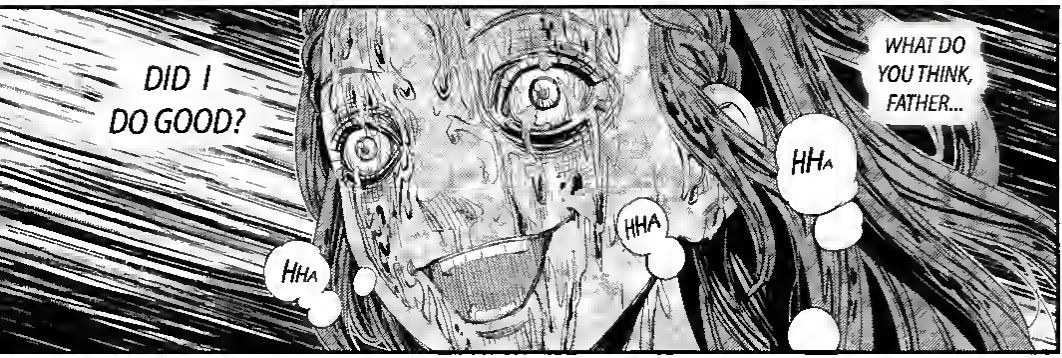
IF YOU MISS, I'LL TAKE OVER!
STAY CALM, AIM, AND ALL WILL BE WELL .


I WAS RIGHT, HERE THEY ARE! ♪

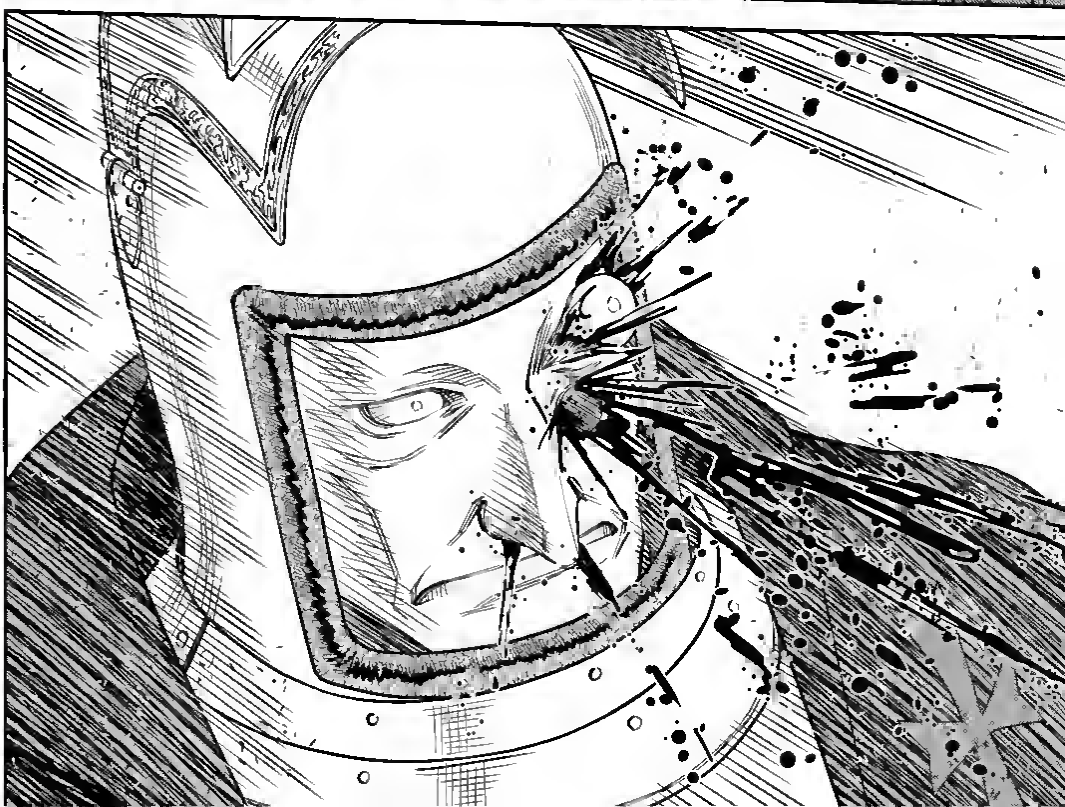
ドドド

BUT NOW, NOTHING ELSE MATTERS EXCEPT MY HATRED FOR THIS MAN!
SIR GUSTAV, THE CASTLE IS JUST BEYOND THE RIVER!
I USED TO THINK THAT NOTHING COULD EVER JUSTIFY KILLING ANYONE..
I'M GONNA HAVE TO APOLOGIZE TO THE OTHERS..
IRMA, STOP!
I DON'T WANT TO SHOOT YOU!
HAA... HAA...
GET OUTTA MY WAY, OR DIE!


HEH HEH
I LOVE MY CITY, AND IT FEELS SO GREAT WHENEVER I HEAR COMPLIMENTS LIKE THAT!
I HOPE WE CAN BE FRIENDS!
YOU REMIND ME A LITTLE OF TANJA!
I HOPE SO TOO!
ŠÁRKA, SAVE YOURSELF!
NO, THAT'LL TAKE MORE THAN ONE SHOT!
AIM FOR THE HORSE!


DID I DO GOOD?
HHA
HHA
HHA
WHAT DO YOU THINK, FATHER...

I'M SORRY...
IRMA...



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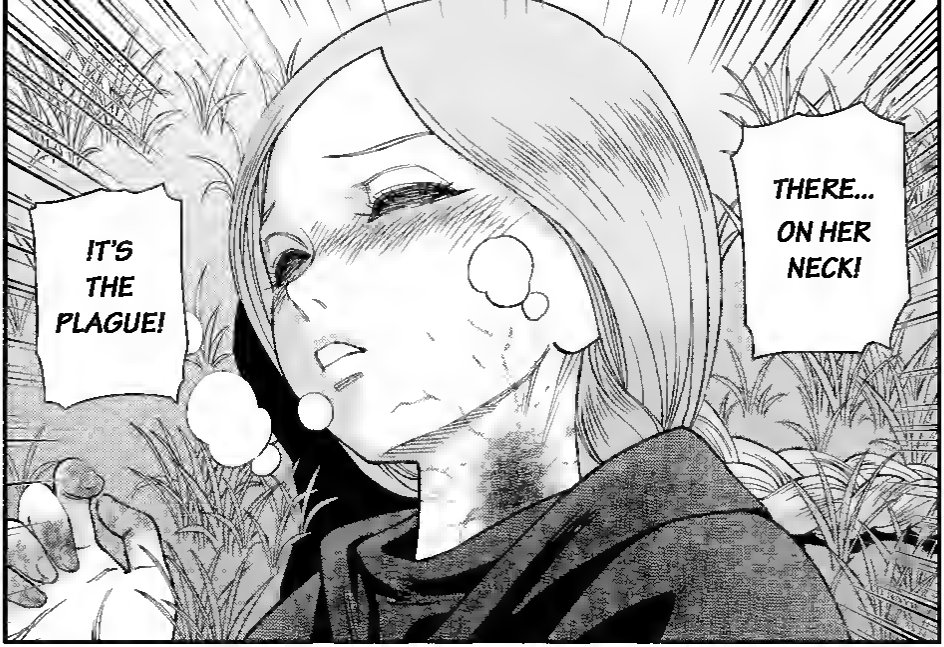
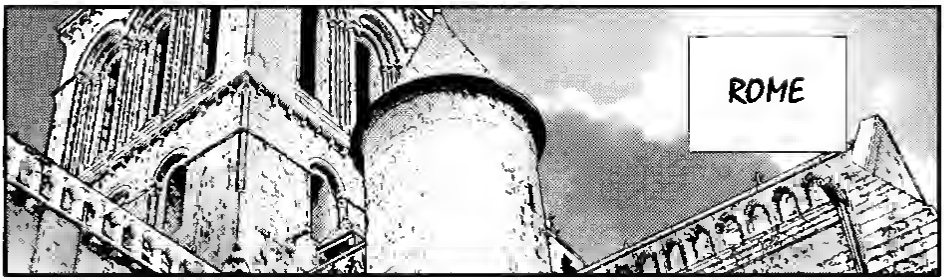
ŽIŽKA!
IT APPEARS THE REMAINING KNIGHTS OF THE CROSS WITH THE RED STAR HAVE TAKEN REFUGE AT VYŠEHRAD CASTLE!
TSK... DESTROY EVERY LAST ONE OF THEIR VILE INSTALLATIONS!
ANYONE BITTEN BY RATS OR CAME INTO CONTACT WITH THE ROTTING FLESH?

I'VE DECIDED TO PLACE MY BETS ON YOUR AMBITIONS
LET US BEGIN BY DEFEATING THE CATHOLIC FORCES WITHIN BOHEMIA!
OHO! A MEMBER OF THE NOBILITY WANTS TO LEARN FROM THE VULGAR MERCENARY?
I WISH FOR YOU TO INSTRUCT US IN YOUR WAYS OF COMBAT!
AND THEN, WE WILL HOIST THE HUSSITE CHALICE BEFORE THE WALLS OF ROME!

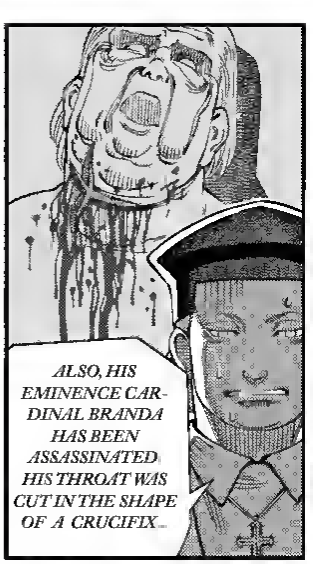
ARE YOU SURE?
I WANT TO BE A SOLDIER..
CAN I JOIN YOU GUYS?
BUT ALSO, ŠÁRKA AND GABRIELA, THEY CAME LOOKING FOR ME
WHILE NONE OF MY SISTER'S COLLEAGUES DID THE SAME!
HER DEATH MADE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND?
YES .
I CONSIDERED WORKING IN THE BATHHOUSE LIKE MARKÉTA, BUT...
WILL HE BE JOINING US TOO?
WHAT ABOUT THIS JISKRA PERSON?

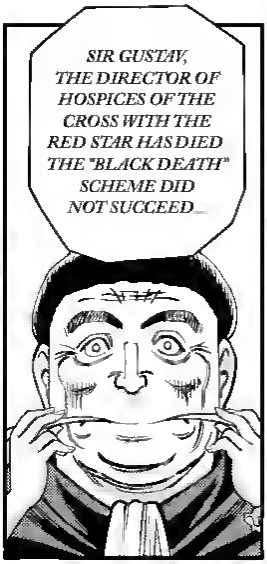
FROM NOW ON, I'M YOUR BIG BRO THER! ♪
UHH... THAT'S WHAT HE WANTS ME TO CALL HIM...
AND YOU SAID YES?
YOUR BROTHER?
YEAH
BUT MY BROTHER SAID HE HAD SOMETHING TO DEAL WITH BEFORE...
わ、
わ、
SÁRA'S GONE ALL BRIGHT RED NOW!
WELL DONE!
SURE, I'D LIKE TO BE HIS "WIDDLE SISTER" TOO!
WHAT HAPPENED TO HER?
S-SHE'S BURNING UP!
THUD
GAB-RIELA!?


IT'S THE PLAGUE!
THERE... ON HER NECK!

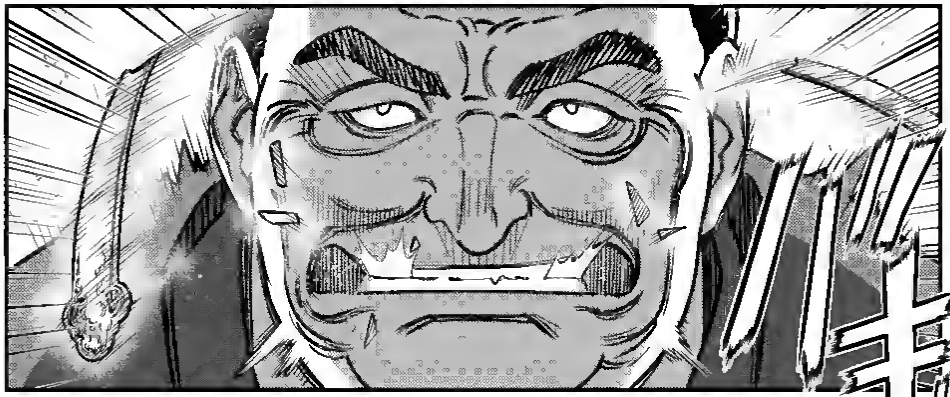

ROME

YOUR ENVOY REPORTS, YOUR HOLINESS!
AAAH...
SAY "AAH", YOUR HOLINESS!


ALSO, HIS EMINENCE CARDINAL BRANDA HAS BEEN ASSASSINATED. HIS THROAT WAS CUT IN THE SHAPE OF A CRUCIFIX...


SIR GUSTAV, THE DIRECTOR OF HOSPICES OF THE CROSS WITH THE RED STAR HAS DIED THE "BLACK DEATH" SCHEME DID NOT SUCCEED...

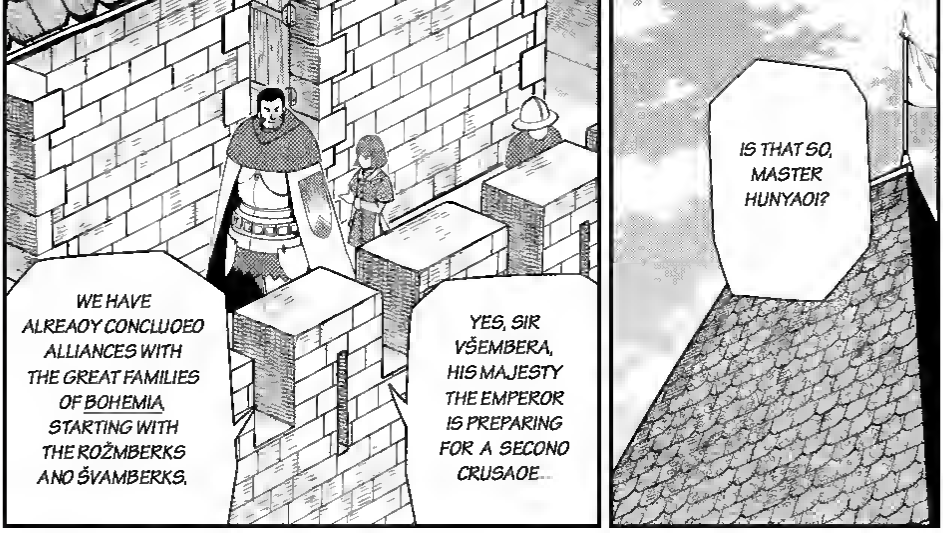
OPEN WIDE!
MY DEARS, MAY I PRESENT GIULIANO CESARINI, A MOST REMARKABLE MAN!

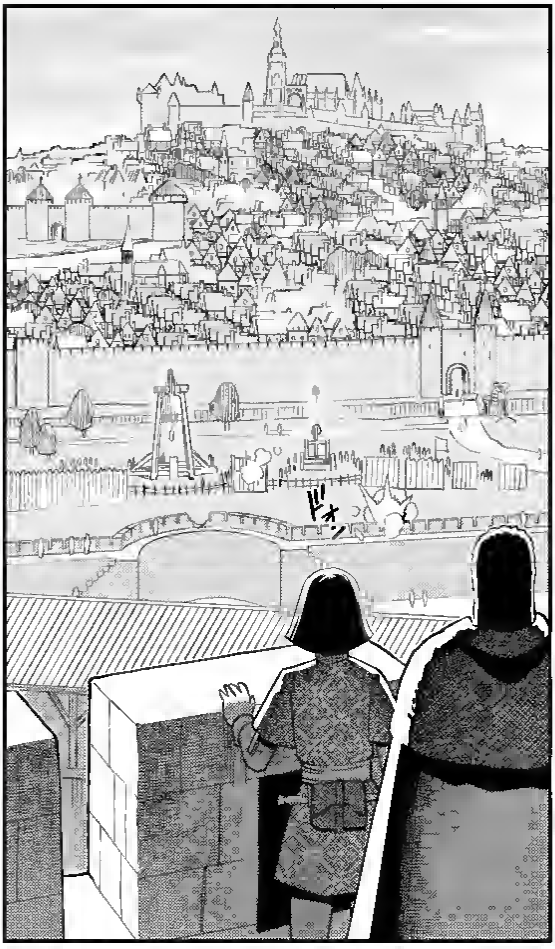

HEE-HAW!

THE EMPEROR MUST LAUNCH ANOTHER CRUSADE!
CESARINI! MAKE FOR HUNGARY AT ONCE!

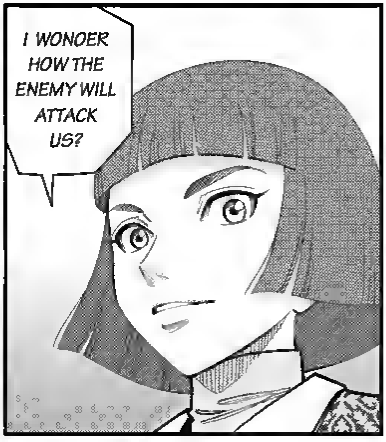
GNGN GNGN! UUUH

YES, MOTHER...
ELISABETH...
...
BUDA, HUNGARY
ROYAL PALACE
VERY GOOD...
HIS HDLINESS THE POPE HAS DEMANDED A NEW CRUSADE, YOUR MAJESTY?
HE IS SIR ALBERT OF HABSBURG, THE DUKE OF AUSTRIA!
WE HAVE DECIDED ON WHO YOUR FUTURE HUSBAND WILL BE...
INFORM JOHANN HUNYADI!
THEY WILL ATTACK FRDM THE SOUTH, BRANDENBURG WILL MARCH FROM THE WEST, AND OUR DWN HUNGARIAN ARMY FROM THE EAST!
INDEED HE HAS, AND MY FUTURE SON-IN-LAW WILL BE LEADING THE SOUTH GERMAN PRINCES!
HMM, WEDDING...


WE HAVE ALREADY CONCLUDED ALLIANCES WITH THE GREAT FAMILIES OF BOHEMIA, STARTING WITH THE ROŽMBERKS AND ŠVAMBERKS.
YES, SIR VŠEMBERA, HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR IS PREPARING FOR A SECOND CRUSADE...
IS THAT SO, MASTER HUNYADI?


ドォン

THE VYŠEHRAD WILL BE ABLE TO KEEP FIGHTING FOR SEVERAL MONTHS!
GOOD, AND WITH THE WEAPONS AND PROVISIONS YOU HAVE GIVEN US...


I WONDER HOW THE ENEMY WILL ATTACK US?

【作画協力】
朱麗乃華
永崎らんか

【取材協力】
松山純
キャスル・ティンダンェル
戸屋邦代

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『プラハの異端者たち―中世チェコのフス派にみる宗教改革』薩摩秀登(現代書館・1998)
・『チェコの伝説と歴史』アロイス・イラーセク著/浦井康男訳・注解(北海道大学出版会・2011)
・『ドイツ中世後期の歴史像』瀬原義生(文理閣・2011)
『The Hussite Wars 1419-36』Stephen Turnbull(Osprey Publishing・2004)
・『プラハ』(「旅する21世紀」ブック 望遠郷)(ガリマール社、同朋舎出版・1995)
・『図説 プラハ』(ふくろうの本/世界の歴史)片野優、須貝典子(河出書房新社 2011)
『黄金のプラハ―幻想と現実の錬金術』(平凡社選書)石川達夫(平凡社・2000)
・『プラハ歴史散策』(講談社+α新書)石川達夫(講談社 2004)

【主な参考サイト】
「ターボル戦記~フス戦争の記録~」http://www002.upp.so-net.ne.jp/kolvinus/tabol/top.htm
「The Hussites of Bohemia」http://myweb.tiscali.co.uk/matthaywood/main/Hussites.htm

Dívčí Válka

by Kouichi Ohnishi

解説 乙女戦争の時代 3

Dívčí Válka | ディーヴチー・ヴァールカ | 文・大西巷一

ここでは本作品で描かれている舞台の時代背景について解説します。今回は15世紀、ヨーロッパ屈指の大都市だったボヘミア王国の首都「プラハ」を中心に取り上げます。

其の一

プラハ

当時、パリに次ぐ大都市で「フス戦争」の震源地。

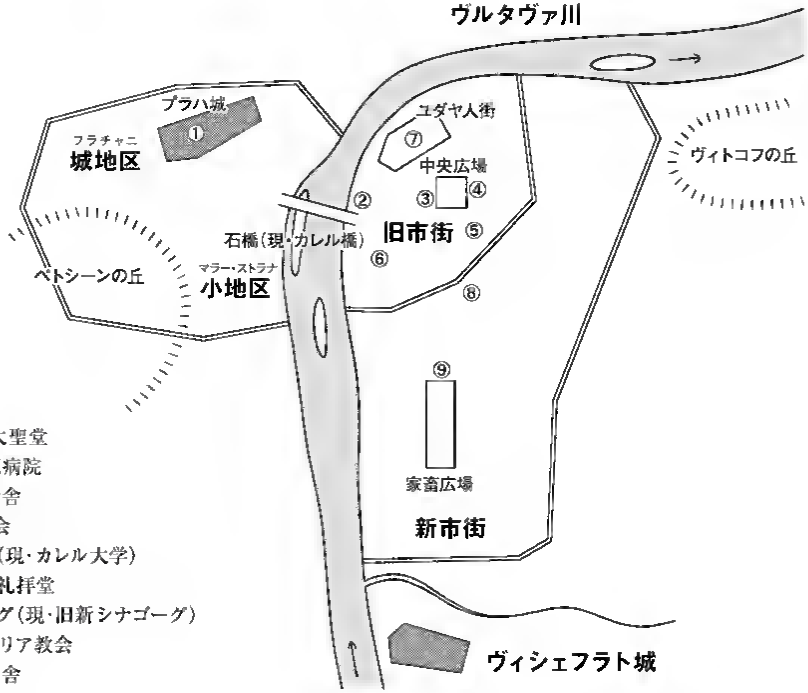
10世紀頃、チェコ人の国ができてから現在に至るまで、プラハはボヘミアの中心都市であり続けました。

プラハに黄金時代をもたらしたのは、14世紀半ばにボヘミア王位と皇帝位に就いたカール4世（ボヘミア王としてはカレル1世）でした。カール4世はプラハをボヘミアだけでなく神聖ローマ帝国の首都として本格的に整備し、その結果、人口約4万人の、アルプス以北のヨーロッパではパリに次ぐ大都市となりました。しかし王権によって上からもたらされた繁栄は、カール4世が没すると次第に失われていきました。また、プラハ振興のために招かれたドイツ人、特に聖職者たちに多大な特権を与えられたことが社会の歪みとなり、フス派による社会改革運動を招くことにもなりました。

当時のプラハは、ヴルタヴァ川をはさんで西岸の《プラハ城》を含む《城地区（フラチャニ）》と《小地区（マラー・ストラナ）》、東岸の《旧市街》と《新市街》から成り、その南に《ヴィシェフラト城》がありました。

プラハ城はカール4世によって改築され、ゴシック式の《聖ヴィート大聖堂》が建てられました。当時、大聖堂はまだ全体の50%ほどしか出来ておらず、ジギスムントが多くの財宝を持ち去った後、過激なフス派によって多くの装飾が破壊されました。城下町として発展していた小地区も、戦闘によって大きく破壊されました。

プラハの東西両岸を結ぶ《カ



① 聖ヴィート大聖堂
② 紅星騎士団病院
③ 旧市街市庁舎
④ ティーン教会
⑤ プラハ大学（現・カレル大学）
⑥ ベツレヘム礼拝堂
⑦ 新シナゴーグ（現・旧新シナゴーグ）
⑧ 雪の聖母マリア教会
⑨ 新市街市庁舎

レル橋》もカール4世による建造です。当時は単に「石橋」と呼ばれていました。

東岸の旧市街は古くから繁栄し、裕福な商人や有力な職人が多く住んでいました。ドイツ系の市民や聖職者も多く住んでいましたが、その大半がフス派によって町を追われました。旧市街の中心には広場があり、《旧市街市庁舎》や《ティーン教会》などが隣接していました。市庁舎の有名な《天文時計》の下半分に暦版や仕掛け人形などが加えられるのはもう少し後になります。《プラハ大学》を設立したのもカール4世です。中欧では最初の大学となるプラハ大学には国内外から学生や講師が集まり、イングランドから持ち込まれたウィクリフ派の神学がフス派の起源となりました。《ベツレヘム礼拝堂》はプラハ大学の神学者ヤン・フスが市民のために説教を行った場所です。

旧市街の外側に新たに生まれた新市街は、中小の商人や下層労働者などの比較的貧しい市民が多く住んでいました。裕福な旧市街の市民はカトリック派か比較的穏健なフス派が多かったのに対し、新市街では抜本的な改革を求める急進的な思想が支持されました。《雪の聖母マリア教会》での過激な説教で人気を博したヤン・ジェリフスキーが支持者とともに《新市街市庁舎》を襲撃したことから、フス戦争が勃発しました。

なお、当時のプラハには24の浴場があったといいます。プラハに限らず中世の都市にはいくつも共同浴場があり、市民の憩いの場となっていましたが、若い湯女が性的なサービスを提供して不道徳の温床と見なされることもありました。

ヴィシェフラト城については次巻で詳しく取り上げます。

其の二

ユダヤ人

弾圧と虐殺の歴史の中を生きてきた人々。

ユダヤ人とはひとことで言うとユダヤ教を信仰する人々のことです。

中世ヨーロッパ人のほとんどはキリスト教徒でしたが、異教徒であるユダヤ人も少数ながら都市に定住し、主に商業や手工業で生計を立てていました。特にキリスト教徒には禁じられていた金貸し業はユダヤ人の専売特許でした。

多くの場合、多額の税や貢納と引き替えに国王や領主の保護を受けながら、キリスト教徒とも共存していましたが、偏見や中傷を被ったり、目印を付けるよう強いられることもありました。

14世紀半ばにペストが大流行して社会不安が高まると、厳しいユダヤ人迫害が各地で起こりました。比較的ペストの被害が少なかった東欧に多くのユダヤ人が移住し、プラハにも大きなユダヤ人コミュニティが出来ました。

プラハのユダヤ人街の《旧新シナゴーグ》(当時は「新シナゴーグ」と呼ばれていた)はヨーロッパに現存する最古のシナゴーグとしても知られています。独自のゴシック様式で、天井の穹窿(ヴォールト)が十字型にならないようにした「五本リブのヴォールト」が特徴です(挿絵参照)。

ユダヤ人にとって安全な町と思われていたプラハでも大きな悲劇が起きました。1389年、プラハの司祭の扇動によってユダヤ人街が襲撃され、3千人ものユダヤ人が殺害されたと記録されています。この時生き残ったユダヤ人の一人、アヴィグドル・カロは犠牲者を悼んで「赦し(セリハ)」という悲歌を作り、今も旧新シナゴーグで「贖罪の日」に読まれているそうです。

アヴィグドル・カロはのちにラビ(ユダヤの司祭・指導者)となり、キリスト教との神学的議論も多く著し、ヤン・フスの思想にも影響を受けたと言われています。フス派のユダヤ人に対する態度は、比較的寛容で協力し合ったとも、逆に厳しく弾圧したとも言われていますが、恐らくはその両方の局面があったと思われます。

なお、カバラとはユダヤ教の伝統に基づく神秘思想で、医学や錬金術(当時の化学)とも深い関わりがありました。

其の三

ペスト

欧州人口の3分の1を死へと至らしめた。

ペストは中世ヨーロッパの人々にとって最大の災厄でした。

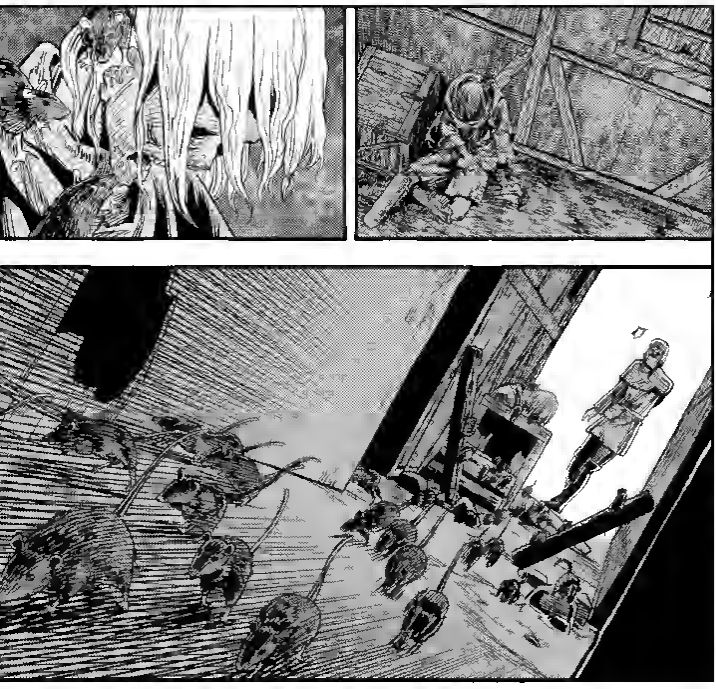
元々は中国奥地の雲南地方の風土病だったペストは、モンゴルの東西交易路に乗って伝播し、14世紀の半ば頃ヨーロッパで初めて大流行しました。この時ヨーロッパの全人口の3分の1が失われたと言われています。現代の日本に置き換えると4千万人が死亡するような想像を絶する大災害です。東ヨーロッパは比較的被害が少なかったものの、ボヘミアでも度々流行が発生しました。

ペスト菌はネズミの体に寄生するノミによって媒介されます。ノミに咬まれて菌に感染すると、喉や脇などのリンパ腺が腫れ上がり、高熱・頭痛・嘔吐などで苦しみます。さらに血液中に毒素が広がって皮膚に黒いアザができ、感染から1週間ほどで死に至ります。稀に肺を犯されて「肺ペスト」になると最悪で、咳やくしゃみによる飛沫感染で急速に犠牲者が拡大します。

現代では治療薬もあり、それほど恐ろしい病気ではなくなりましたが、当時の医学ではその仕組みも治療法もわからず、「黒死病」と呼ばれて恐れられました。

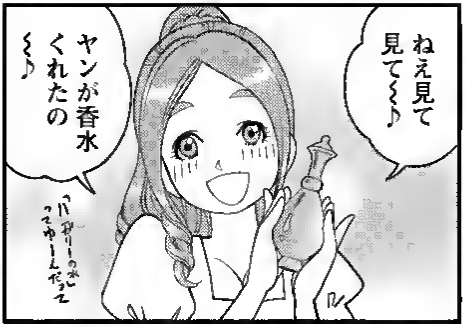
黒死病の恐怖は様々な迷信やパニックを引き起こし、神の怒りを鎮めようと自らを鞭打ちながら行列する狂信的集団が発生したり、疫病の原因はユダヤ人が井戸に毒を入れた所為だとしてユダヤ人に対する迫害が起きたりしました。

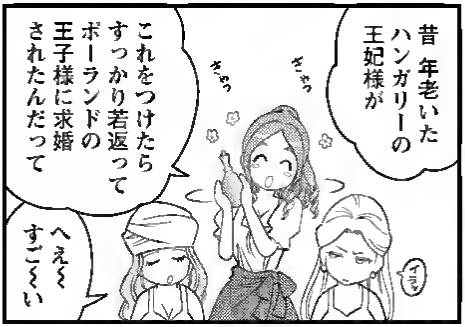
ちなみに作中の《紅星騎士団》は実在の騎士修道会ですが、ペストを兵器として利用したという事実はありません。作中に登場した感染防止用の甲冑も架空のものですが、ペスト専門の医師は感染を防ぐ薬草を詰めた鳥の顔のようなマスクを付けていたとされています（皮膚や呼吸器官を露出しないことで感染の確率は低くなるかもしれません）。こうしたマスクは17世紀に考案されたもののようです。

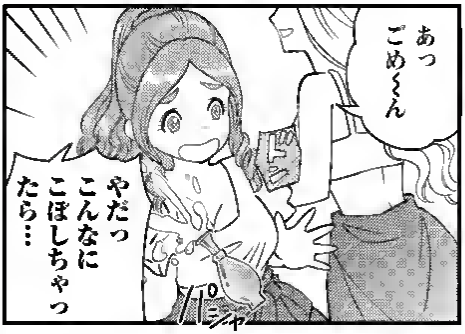


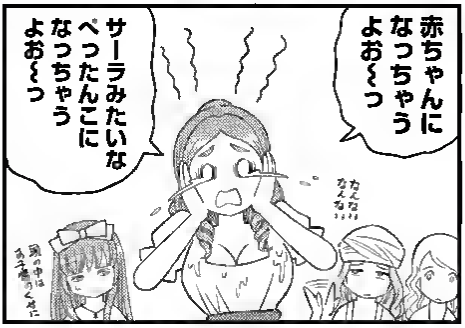
でぃーづちー・づぁーるか 4コマ劇場

貰いもの

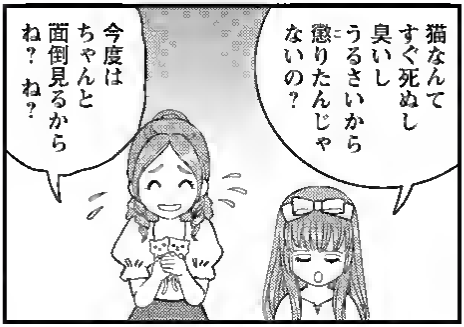


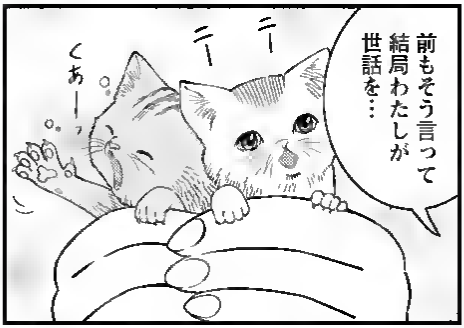


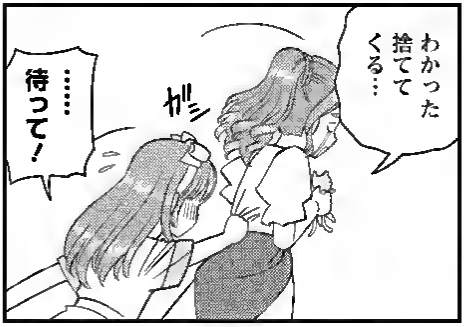




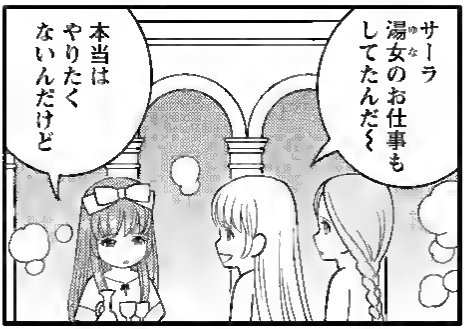
拾いもの

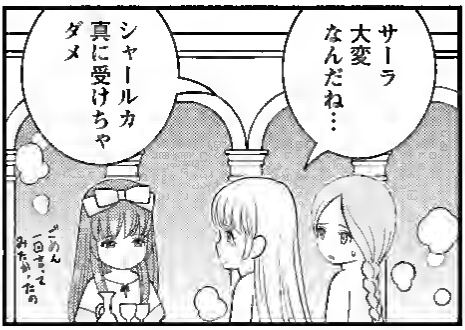




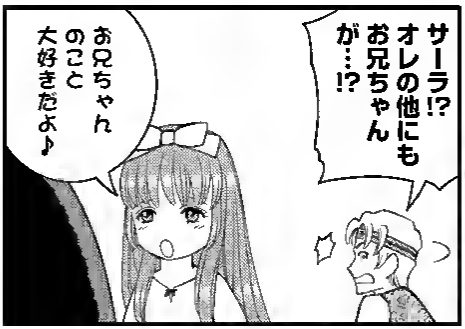


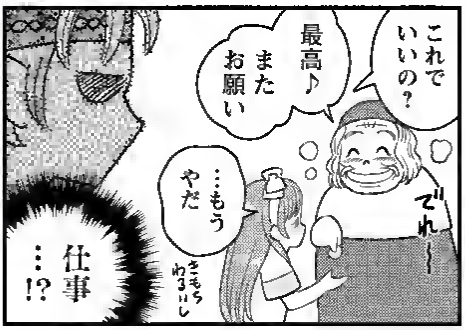
湯女のお仕事





妹のお仕事





おしまい

Next

乙女戦争

デイーヴチー・ヴァールカ

Dívčí válka
by Kaucchi Ohnishi

第4巻予告

難攻不落のヴィシェフラト城。
長期化する攻城戦。
尽きていく兵糧。
死へ至る、飢えと渇きの果てに
少女が見たものは――!?
うふふ～
じっちゃんの
秘密兵器
使わせて
もらうよん♪
to be continued...

ホークウッド

トミイ大塚

絶賛発売中!!

1~6巻

（以下続刊）

1346年、フランス王国。
騎士こそ戦場の主役であり、彼らが奉ずる騎士道が
“戦争の常識”を決めていた時代。
傭兵団「白鴉隊」の隊長ジョン・ホークウッドは、
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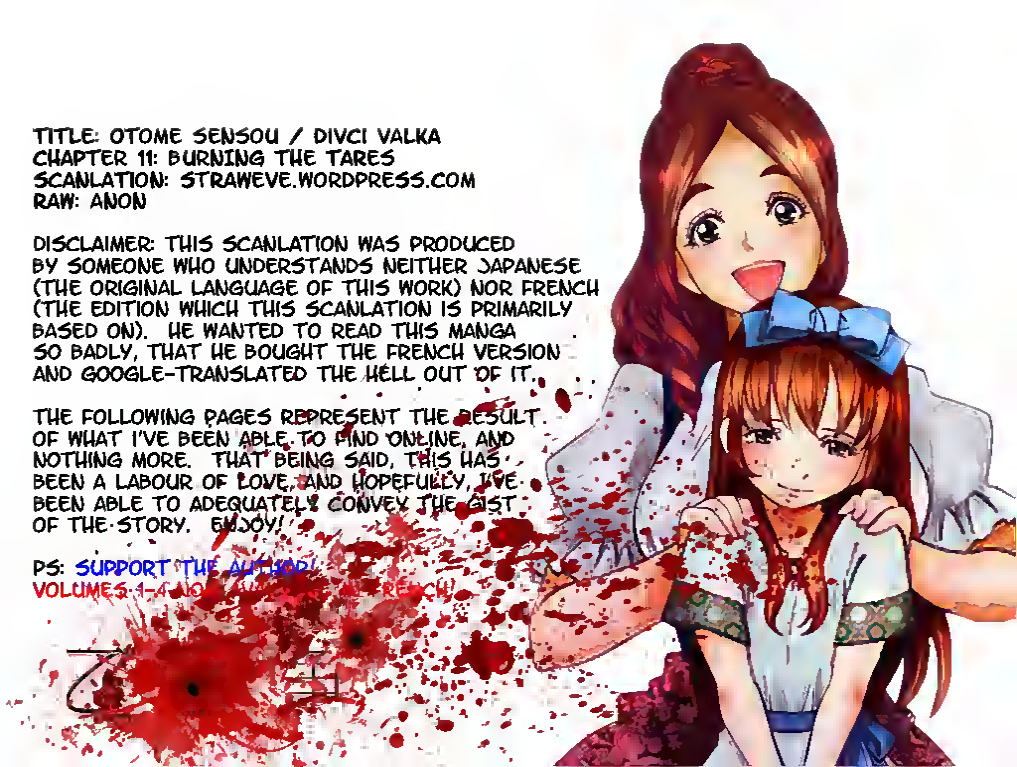

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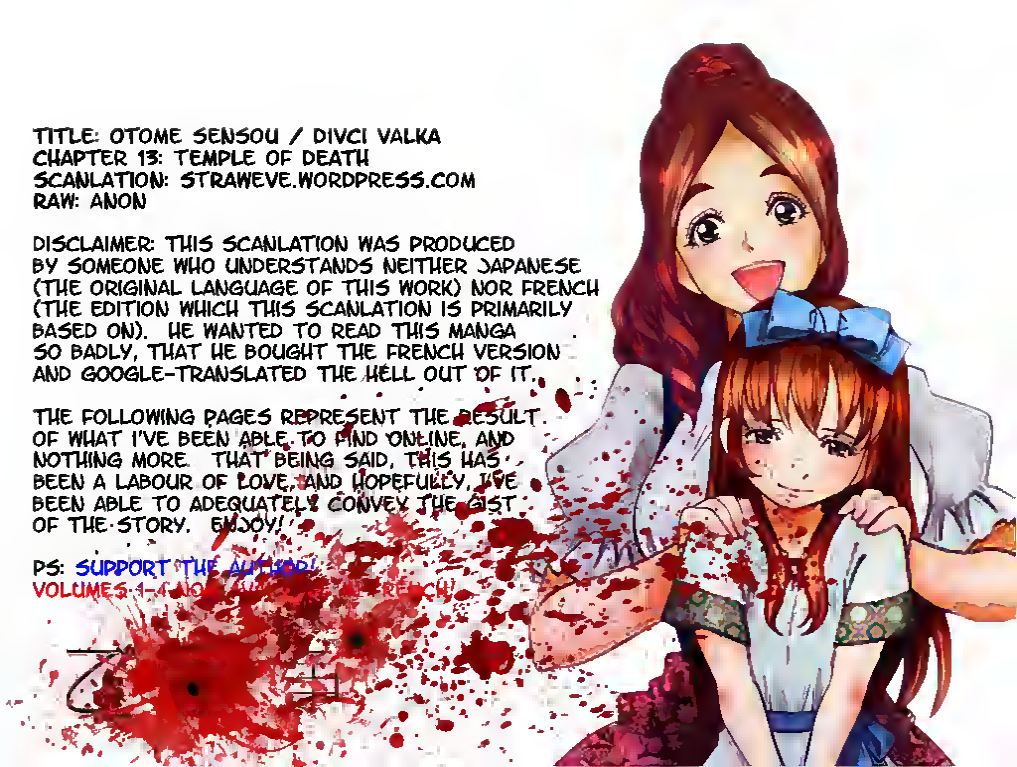

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